The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. VII.---NO. 10. WEEKLY EDITION. JANUARY 8, 1870.

THE WEEKLY COMMERCIAL

A LARGE SHEET CONTAINING ALL THE CURRENT NEWS, MISCELLANEOUS, LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE, AND VALUABLE READING FOR THE FAMILY.

TERMS OF THE WEEKLY:

Per Year, (52 issues)....$2 00
In Clubs of Twenty....1 50
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COMMERCIAL, PITTSBURGH.

HANDS.

Jeweled hands, so soft and white,
Dimpling round the coins of gold,
Holding friendship's clasp so slight
That the pressure soon grows cold.

Busy hands that ceaseless toil,
Feeling ne'er a love caress,
Shrinking not from labor's soil
With a pretty daintiness.

Weary hands, that trembling droop
Only to be raised again,
While the aching head must stoop
With a prayer for ease from pain.

Idle hands, ye feebly hold
Silken clues to pleasance fair!
Busy hands, ye search full bold
In work's conquered lion's lair.

Quiet hands, a rare repose
Chains ye with its perfect spell;
Ye have touched a thousand woes
Olive boughs to grasp as well.

A FAIRY STORY.

THE GIANT DARKNESS AND THE FAIRY SLEEP.

The fairy court was assembled. The queen sat on her mossy throne, and graciously indicated to her subjects her permission to approach by waving her slender, translucent wand, hung with lily-bells.

The fairies ranged before her tried to look dignified and attentive, after the manner of courtiers; but fay Hope could not resist a minute with Cupid, half hidden under a great mulberry bush, behind her sister sprites, even though her sovereign was holding audience, and it was quite out of place, she knew.

One after another the fairies presented petitions and rendered accounts of what they had seen and done. The queen arose and was about to retire, when suddenly the sweet lily-bells tinkled like the first notes of a music-box, and she said:—

"I observe that one of my subjects, who has hitherto been silent, has something to communicate. Faithful Sleep approach, and the royal ear shall heed thee."

"Oh, most gracious queen," began Sleep, kneeling on a strawberry leaf, "I have, indeed, a petition to prefer. You have heard oftimes of a mighty giant called Darkness. Of late I have heard much of him. He does great good in the world of mortals, and yet unwittingly much harm. They fear him, though he is oft their truest friend. I would ask, Oh, best of sovereigns, thy permission to depart hence to seek this wonderful giant, to join my power with his in the nether sphere. Alone we are comparatively useless; together we could work untold blessings."

"But dost thou not know, O gentle Sleep, the reports of cruelty and hardness which the winds and storms have brought of Giant Darkness?" demanded the queen. "He could not destroy thee, for thou art immortal, but he could close his paths against thee, and leave thee a stranger in an unknown realm. Doth not this terrify thee?"

"No, my queen, I am rendered so unhappy only by looking into the mortal world, and observing how much good I could do with his aid, that I feel I am not performing my share of the duties of the immortals."

"Thou art then determined to set out on this perilous undertaking?" asked the sovereign.

"With thy consent, my queen, I will start this night," answered Sleep.

"Since thou wilt only be content in going, my faithful subject, I give my consent." And another twinkling of the lily-bells terminated the audience.

Sweet, tender-eyed, beneficent Sleep spread her wings and floated away toward the domain of the giants. Many times in her long journey was she tempted to turn and seek again her forest home. Many times did her purpose grow weak; but she gained strength when she thought of those she sought to bless.

At last, after passing through beautiful clouds of soft purple, pinkish gray and fleecy gold, and over boundless oceans, vast plains and high mountains, Sleep arrived at the giant's confines. Knocking at the great gates she demanded to be conducted to the presence of the giant Darkness. Through long avenues, paved with marble and bordered with immense trees, through grand saloons hung with magnificent tapestries—for everything was on a colossal scale in the giant's palace; on, on, till at length Sleep thought she should never reach his awful presence. Suddenly she was ushered into a court, grander in every way than anything she had yet seen. On a splendid throne sat Darkness, great and gloomy.

Sleep approached and knelt before him. Then in a voice which Sleep mistook for thunder he said:

"Who art thou that demandest admittance to my castle, to my very presence, in this imperious way? Knowest thou not that thou challengest my anger, and that the anger of Darkness is to be dreaded even by immortals?"

At this the giant looked very menacing, and Sleep tremblingly answered:

"Great Darkness, I do, indeed, know that thy anger is no April zephyr, but I believe that I have not incurred it. I am the fairy called Sleep, and I come from the court of my queen to prefer a request. Have I thy permission to speak?"

"Since thou hast come so great a distance, it must needs be of importance, this that thou wouldst speak of. Say on." And the giant prepared himself to listen.

"Great Darkness," began Sleep, "I have heard much of thy power in the mortal world—how thou canst embrace half of it at one time. I know thou bringest repose and comfort to men who fear thee because they understand thee not. I know, too, that under the protection of thy shadow much wrong and harm is done which thou canst not prevent. My desire is this: to join my powers with thine; to go through the human world hand in hand with thee; to bring with me my three gifts, Rest, Pleasant Dreams, Oblivion; and in this way to aid and to complete thy work."

"Gentle Sleep," replied the giant, in as mild a tone as he could assume, and which sounded like the distant roar of a tempest, "I see that thou art one of the best of fairies. It shall be as thou desirest, except in this particular: thou must follow me as near or as distant as thou seest fit; but thou must follow, and not accompany me. We will begin at once. It is a long and weary way that thou wilt have to go; but I see no danger or fatigue can turn thee from thy good purpose."

And so they set out for this planet of ours. On and on they went, down through the soft ether, into the world itself; sweet Sleep, with her three gifts, ever following after the Giant Darkness.

Many hours sped; but they seemed minutes to the fairy, so intent was she upon her errand of mercy. At last she touched the curve of the earth, and saw Darkness—for no shadows clouded her eyes—far in advance, striding over a broad valley, blackened beneath the trailing of his sable robes. She looked above, and descried a cluster of light hung like a lamp in the heavens, and she knew that must be the home she had left, thousands of miles away. She glanced around, and the dark ball on which she stood swung in a soft vapor, through which the stars shone and the planets whirled. The effect was wondrously beautiful, and she was lost in admiration. She was soon roused to duty. She knew by this time that Darkness was so far in advance that she might not see him again; but she cared not. She could follow, and execute her mission while he was stalking through the earth with his immense strides, that carried him faster and further than did the flutter of her delicate wings.

She flew on; and, seeing a pleasant village below her, she alighted, to begin her first experiment.

"Ah!" said Sleep, looking into a house, "here I am needed." And, entering, she found a young man lying on a bed, his face contorted by pain. He had met with an accident; one of his limbs had been crushed. The girlish wife bent over him trying to soothe him. Sleep said to herself, "Here will I leave Rest." And, laying her fairy fingers on the injured leg, she drove pain away. The sufferer slept, and the wife breathed a thankful prayer.

So Sleep passed on, looking into each house and cot as she went. Here she left Pleasant Dreams, there Rest, and again Oblivion. At last she floated over the open country, and came to a farmhouse. Through the window she saw the farmer sitting alone by the fire, looking sad and unhappy. His wife and his only child had recently died, his crops had failed, debts pressed heavily upon him; and, discouraged and disheartened, he sat alone. Sleep flew to his side; touching his forehead with her silver wand, she laid beside him Rest and Pleasant Dreams, in which he saw broad fields of waving grain, great orchards full of choicest fruits, herds of cattle, fat and sleek, and, more than that, himself master of all, with the dear, lost wife by his side, and their pretty child playing in the grass at their feet.

"What matter," thought Sleep, as she sailed away, "if he does wake to toil and care on the morrow? He will be but strengthened and refreshed by this vision of happiness."

Here in the great barn, with light shining through its cracks, is a real old-fashioned husking party. The boys and girls are working hard at the tough husks, and cheerily trying to excel each other in the quantity of ears uncovered.

"These merry workers need no service of mine," thought Sleep. "I'll just tuck a parcel of Pleasant Dreams into each pocket and hurry away."

And now she had come to the great city; and, although Darkness had been before her and hushed much of its busy roar, it seemed to Sleep she could find no resting-place there.

Through the shutters of a tall and handsome house peeped Sleep. On one side of the blazing fire sat a lady, dressed in deepest black. Everything that wealth could provide for her comfort was around her; but the pale face and swollen eyelids told the fairy of grief which no luxury could assuage. Drawing the weary head to her bosom, Sleep wrapped Oblivion about it, shutting out melancholy consciousness and giving peace to the lonely heart.

"Surely happiness reigns and shadows are unknown here," murmured the fairy, and she stopped before a brightly-lighted parlor. In the pleasant room was a young soldier, just returned from war; telling his adventures to the tender-eyed mother, the proud father, the loving sisters, and the crowing baby, plucking at his gilt buttons.

To the gentle mother Sleep gave a vision of the future, when the brave son, to part with whom had been such a trial, should be always with them, and from whom she looked for no more separations. The father received dreams of prosperity and usefulness, with a noble boy to smooth the way of his declining years. The sister saw brightness on every side, and a loving companion in the returned brother. Even the baby beheld a future in which pins and pains had no part.

"What is that thing crouching in deep shadow? Can it be a human being?" thought the fairy. Yes, one who has determined to take the life of his fellow-creature. He knows that a man of wealth, whom he has been stealthily pursuing, is soon to pass that way, and he means to murder him, to get the little gold he might honorably earn. In an agony Sleep flies to him, as she hears the rich man's step, draws oblivion tightly over his eyes. The victim goes by unharmed.

"Ah!" sighed Sleep, as she paused before a magnificent house in a stately avenue, "I cannot enter here. The spirits of Unrest, of Bitterness, of Anger guard the way. I cannot yet overpower them. I will come back and try again."

Merry voices and childish laughter next won the fairy's attention. This was a children's party; and the round faces looked so happy as they wound in and out through the mazes of "Lift up the gates," and "Oats, peas, beans," and "Pussy," that Sleep was almost tempted not to leave anything for them; but slipping into the hall, she placed in each of the hats and caps and hoods Rest and Pleasant Dreams, and in them they found more parties, more games, and more fun than they had yet seen or hoped to enjoy.

"Now," thought the fairy, "I will return to battle with my enemies, Unrest, Bitterness, and Anger, and give Oblivion to those weary mortals."

Back she floated, and with increased strength fought those foes of peace and happiness till she forced an entrance into the splendid rooms and folded their inmates in a tender peace.

And so through all time go Giant Darkness and Fairy Sleep, carrying with them the three beautiful gifts which are such blessings to us all.

THE question of dividing New York into two states, is agitated. There is less reason for a division of that State than Pennsylvania, while natural reasons favor the idea. Looking at the matter candidly, why should we not divide with Philadelphia for the Capital of the State of Pennsylvania and Pittsburgh the Capital of the State of Allegheny? Again we ask, why not?

THE BYRON QUESTION.

MRS. STOWE'S NEW VOLUME.

Why She Made Her First Disclosure—What She Says of Her Critics.

The following is the first chapter of Mrs. Stowe's new book on *Lady Byron:*

The interval since my publication of "The True story of Lady Byron's Life" has been one of stormy discussion and much invective.

I have not thought it necessary to disturb my spirit and confuse my sense of right by even an attempt at reading the many abusive articles that both here and in England have followed that disclosure. Friends have undertaken the task for me, giving me from time to time the substance of anything really worthy of attention which came to view in the tumult.

It appeared to me essential that this first excitement should in a measure spend itself before there would be a possibility of speaking to any purpose. Now, when all would seem to have spoken who can speak, and, it is to be hoped, have said the utmost they can say, there seems a propriety in listening calmly, if that be possible, to what I have to say in reply.

And first, why have I made this disclosure at all?

To this I answer briefly, because I considered it my duty to make it.

I made it in defense of a beloved, revered friend, whose memory stands forth in the eyes of the civilized world charged with most repulsive crimes, of which I *certainly* knew her innocent.

I claim, and shall prove, that Lady Byron's reputation has been the victim of a concerted attack, begun by her husband during her lifetime, and coming to its climax over her grave. I claim, and shall prove, that it was not I who stirred up this controversy in this year 1869. I shall show *who did it*, and who is responsible for bringing on me that hard duty of making these disclosures, which, it appears to me, ought to have been made by others.

I claim that these facts were given to me unguarded by any promise or seal of secrecy, expressed or implied; that they were lodged with me as one sister rests her story with another for sympathy, for counsel, for defense. Never did I suppose the day would come that I should be obliged to so cruel an anguish as this use of them has been to me. Never did I suppose that—when those kind hands, that had shed nothing but blessings, were lying in the helplessness of death—when that gentle heart, so sorely tried and to the last so full of love, was lying cold in the tomb—a countryman in England could be found to cast the foulest slanders on her grave, and not one in all England to raise an effective voice in her defense.

I admit the feebleness of my plea, in point of execution. It was written in a state of exhausted health, when no labor of the kind was safe for me, when my hand had not strength to hold the pen, and I was forced to dictate to another.

I have been told that I have no reason to congratulate myself on it as a literary effort. O, my brothers and sisters! is there then nothing in the world to think of but literary effects? I ask any man with a heart in his bosom, if he had been obliged to tell a story so cruel, because his mother's grave gave no rest from slander; I ask any woman who had been forced to such a disclosure to free a dead sister's name from grossest insults, whether she would have thought of making this work of bitterness a literary success?

Are the cries of the oppressed, the gasps of the dying, the last prayers of mothers, are any words wrung like drops of blood from the human heart to be judged as literary efforts?

My fellow-countrymen of America, men of the press, I have done you one act of justice, of all your bitter articles, I have read not one. I shall never be troubled in the future time by the remembrance of any unkind word you have said of me, for at this moment I recollect not one. I had such faith in you, such pride in my countrymen, as men with whom, above all others, the cause of woman was safe and sacred, that I was at first astonished and incredulous at what I heard of the course of the American press, and was silent, not merely from the impossibility of being heard, but from grief and shame. But reflection convinces me that you were, in many cases, acting from a misunderstanding of facts and through misguided honorable feeling; and I still feel courage, therefore, to ask from you a fair hearing. Now, as I have done you this justice, will you also do me the justice to hear me seriously and candidly?

What interest have you or I, my brother and my sister, in this short life of ours, to utter anything but the truth? Is not truth between man and man and between man and woman the foundation on which things rest? Have you not, every individual of you, who must hereafter give an account of yourself alone to God, an interest to know the exact truth in this matter, and a duty to perform as respects that truth? Hear me, then, while I tell you the position in which I stood, and what was my course in relation to it.

A shameless attack on my friend's memory had appeared in the *Blackwood* of July, 1869, branding Lady Byron as the vilest of criminals and recommending the Guiccioli book to a Christian public as interesting from the very fact that it was the avowed production of Lord Byron's mistress. No efficient protest was made against this outrage in England, and *Littell's Living Age* reprinted the *Blackwood* article, and the Harpers, the largest publishing house in America, perhaps in the world, republished the book.

Its statements—with those of the *Blackwood*, *Pall Mall Gazette*, and other English periodicals—were being propagated through all the young reading and writing world of America. I was meeting them advertised in dailies, and made up into articles in magazines, and thus the generation of to-day, who had no means of judging Lady Byron but by these fables of her slanderers, were being foully deceived. The friends who knew her personally were a small, select circle in England, whom death is every day reducing. They were few in number compared with the great world, and they were *silent*. I saw these foul slanders crystalizing into history uncontradicted by friends who knew her personally, who, firm in their own knowledge of her virtues, and limited in view as aristocratic circles generally are, had no idea of the width of the world they were living in, and the exigency of the crisis. When time passed on and no voice was raised, I spoke. I gave at first a simple story, for I knew instinctively that whoever put the first steel point of truth into this dark cloud of slander must wait for the storm to spend itself. I must say the storm exceeded my expectations, and has raged loud and long. But now that there is a comparative stillness I shall proceed, first, to prove what I have just been asserting, and, second, to add to my true story such facts and incidents as I did not think proper at first to state.

A PEABODY ROMANCE.

An Episode in the Life of the Great Philanthropist—A Betrothal that was Never Consummated—Ambition Gives Way Before Love.

The fact that the late George Peabody died, as he had lived, unmarried, has given rise to innumerable speculations and anecdotes concerning the cause of his remaining single. It is generally believed that at one time he was on the point of marrying Miss Burdett Coutts, an alliance that, in a financial point of view, would have been a very natural one. But hers is not the only name with which that of the millionaire philanthropist has been associated, and now we have still another suggested. For the following romantic story a Providence paper is responsible:

More than thirty years ago, in the far-famed school of the prince of teachers, John Kingsbury, was one of the fairest of all the fair daughters of Providence, celebrated far and nigh, as that city has ever been, for its lovely girls. Her school education finished, she went with friends to Europe, not, however, before having given her youthful affections to a young man whom she had met in a sister city. But before marriage had consummated their happiness adversity came upon him, and he found himself in no situation to marry. He was not willing she should waste her youth and glorious beauty in waiting through long years for the day to come when he could call her his own, so he released her from her vows, and they parted, she going, as I said before, to Europe. There she met George Peabody, then, comparatively speaking, a young man, but one who was already making his mark, and whose wealth was beginning to pour in on every side. He saw her and was struck (as who that ever saw her was not?) with her grace, her winning ways, her exceeding loveliness, and after a while, he "proposed." Her heart still clung to her loved one across the wide Atlantic, but after some time she yielded, perhaps to the wishes of her friends, perhaps to the promptings of worldly ambition, who can tell? Who can fathom the heart of a young and beautiful maiden? She became the affianced wife of Mr. Peabody. After a little interval she came back to this country, and soon after her arrival, met her first love, and after events justify me in saying, her "only love." At the sight of him, all her former affection came back, if, indeed, it had ever left her, and Mr. Peabody, with his wealth and brilliant prospects, faded away, and she clung with fond affection to her American lover, and was willing to share a moderate income with the chosen of her heart. All was told to Mr. Peabody, and he, with that manliness that characterized his every action, gave her up, and in due time she was married and settled in a city not more than three hundred miles from Providence. What she suffered in coming to a final conclusion was known to but few. Her fair cheeks lost their roundness, and grew wan and pale, her lovely eyes had a mournful wistfulness that touched every heart. Some blamed her, others praised her. Those who were ambitious of worldly honors pronounced her "mad," "foolish," to throw over a man like George Peabody, whose ever-increasing wealth would bestow every luxury upon her, and place her in a position in London that would make her lot an envied one, to marry a man who might never have more than a limited income to live upon. Others, and shall I say the nobler part? justified her in thinking that love, true love, was more to be desired than wealth or earthly fame. The painful conflict was at length ended. Her true womanhood vindicated itself, and she wavered no more. I well remember, when in London, twenty-eight years ago, hearing all this talked over in a chosen circle by American friends, and also at a brilliant dinner party given by General Cass, in Versailles, it was thoroughly discussed in all its length and breadth. Whether, in his visit to this country, Mr. Peabody ever met his once affianced bride, I cannot say, neither do I know whether, when she heard of his more princely wealth, her heart ever gave a sigh at the thought "all this might have been mine." After several years of wedded bliss, death took her husband from her side, when the glorious loveliness of her youth had ripened into the full luxuriance of perfect matronhood.

Democratic Stronghold.

A beautiful state of things in New York is thus pictured by the *Sun:* "By immunity from punishment, and grown lusty by the bribes they feed upon, gangs of repeaters perambulate the city from poll to poll on election day, and stuff their ballots into the boxes, under simulated names, or forged names, or the names of real citizens who have not yet voted; and this they do as openly and fearlessly as they parade in the torchlight procession of the previous night, and drank libations of whisky to the success of their candidates. In some of the wards of the city these gangs of repeaters are as regularly organized as the genuine voters; and to such perfection has the system arrived that, through duly authorized agents, their ballots have become an article of merchandise as really as poultry or potatoes. The recent charter election demonstrated that this system will, unless speedily crushed, soon ripen into fearful riots at the polls between rival corps of repeaters. Already the leading strings in some of the wards have slipped from the hands of the political magnates who organized the scheme, and the repeaters have set up for themselves, in some cases selling their votes to irregular candidates, and in others using their strength to elevate to office some favorite member of their gang."

"MEDORA LEIGH."

An Addition to the Literature of the Byron Story.

Dr. Charles Mackay's Answer to Mrs. Stowe.

An Interesting History and Autobiography.

More Private Letters Made Public.

The literature of the Byron controversy has received an addition, which is sure to attract quite as much attention as it deserves, in the shape of a volume published in London by Bentley, entitled *Medora Leigh: a History and an Autobiography.* Dr. Charles Mackay stands as sponsor for this volume, prefacing the autobiography with an introduction and following it with a commentary on the charges brought against Lord Byron by Mrs. Stowe. We give herewith, from an advance copy of this work, a summary of its contents, leaving our readers to decide upon the credibility of the story, and to determine whether it makes for or against Lord Byron. Dr. Mackay states in his preface how he came upon the biography, and follows this with an introduction, covering eighty pages, or nearly one-third of the whole volume, and consisting of a review of the whole of this sickening controversy, interlarded with adulations of Lord Byron and sharp attacks upon Mrs. Stowe, whom Dr. Mackay styles a "Yankee," and, as if that were not enough, an "ultra Yankee." This introductory chapter closes with the following statement of what Dr. Mackay expects this history and autobiography of Medora Leigh to prove:

But though it is evident from all contemporary evidence, and from Lady Byron's own letters to Mrs. Leigh, that the charge of incest was not made in 1816—and from Lady Byron's letter to her friend Lady Anne Barnard, in 1818, that it was not made two years afterwards—it is equally evident the story as told by Mrs. Stowe is untrue as regards its date, and that the charge was first made at a much later time. When was that time? Who made it? And did Lady Byron believe it, and lend it countenance? These inquiries will all find their answer in the history and autobiography of Elizabeth Medora Leigh, which will be duly set forth in the next chapter.

After this ensues the history of Medora Leigh as given by Dr. Mackay, and the autobiography. All that is new or of special interest in the book we give substantially entire.

In the summer of 1843, twenty-seven years after the separation of Lord and Lady Byron, and nineteen years after the death of Lord Byron at Missolonghi, there arrived in London from Paris and the south of France, where she had resided for some time previously, a young lady, with a pretty little daughter, nine or ten years old. The lady represented herself as the fourth child of Hon. Augusta Leigh, the sister of Lord Byron. She was born, she said, in 1815, and was consequently in her twenty-eighth year. She was good looking rather than eminently handsome, had dark eyes and hair, and a dark complexion, and was altogether a very lively and agreeable person. * * * She had come to England to urge a claim which she had, or fancied she had, upon the generosity and kind feeling of Lady Byron; and her expenses from Paris to London had been defrayed by Captain De B——, a gallant veteran of the British army. * * * This officer, who had long been resident in the south of France, had found Miss Leigh in Paris in a state of utter destitution. * * * In the course of a business visit to his London correspondents, he incidentally mentioned, as a reason for requiring some more money than usual, the circumstances of his extra expenditure for Miss Leigh, whose parentage he stated, alleging her to be the daughter of Lord Byron and Mrs. Leigh. This strange statement, if only as an apparent solution of the hitherto undivulged cause of the separation of Lord and Lady Byron, naturally excited great curiosity and interest in those who heard. * * * Miss Leigh proved, by documentary evidence in her possession, that she was indeed the daughter of Hon. Augusta Leigh. * * * She alleged (as it satisfactorily appears from other and corroboratory evidence, with perfect truth) that her mother, Mrs. Leigh, and her aunt, Lady Byron, had given her what is called in legal parlance a "deed of appointment," by which the sum of £3,000 was to become payable to her after the death of these ladies. * * * She also claimed a box of valuable family papers and letters which she had intrusted to Lady Byron's custody, but which was said to have been stolen from Lady Byron's house in Moore-place, by a French waiting woman and her husband, a valet or courier, who had been employed by Lady Byron, in the days when she and Miss Leigh were friends, to act as her servants in the south of France. * * * The most active of the two partners in the firm to whom Miss Leigh was introduced by their client—the most active, at least, as far as this poor lady's case was concerned—was a gentleman whom, for the purposes of this narrative, we shall designate by the initial letter of his name as Mr. S——. The documents and papers on which this narrative is founded came from his hands, and are published by his consent and authority. The originals are in the possession of the publisher of this volume, and will be shown to any one who has any legal pretence to inspect them. * * * [Here follows a genealogical statement, from which it appears that there was a connection between the noble families of Leeds, Conyers and Byron, which will account for some of the names introduced into the autobiography of Miss Leigh.]

Mr. S—— was no sooner persuaded that the case of Medora Leigh was genuine, than he sought an introduction to and an interview with Dr. Lushington, who was then, as he had been since 1816, in Lady Byron's fullest confidence. The object of the interview was not communicated in the letter of introduction, and Mr. S—— had to state it, together with his grounds of intercession, in direct terms to the eminent civilian, who on his part received the statement as an understood fact. * * *

Dr. Lushington having received two letters from Lady Byron, requested a second interview with Mr. S——, in order to read those letters to him. Mr. S—— attended to the summons, and, as in the first instance, noted down the whole conversation within half an hour after its occurrence. * * *

Acting, though somewhat reluctantly, upon advice given by Dr. Lushington in this interview, Mr. S—— had several interviews and conferences with Sir George Stephen, who at that time was an eminent attorney in the city of London. He acted as the legal adviser of Lady Byron, and was furthermore known in the world of letters as the author of an amusing volume, *The Adventures of a Gentleman in Search of a Horse*, by Caveat Emptor. Sir George, after ample time for deliberation, set forth his views on the whole subject of Miss Leigh's distresses, her claims upon the kindheartedness of Lady Byron, and the methods by which, and by which only, she could, in his opinion, be restored to the favor she had forfeited, in the following letter:

17 KING'S ARMS YARD, COLEMAN STREET, }
August 9, 1843. }

SIR: I have not succeeded in obtaining the letters of Mrs. Leigh. If I had, I should have written to you before. I retain the same disposition to assist her, by mediation with her friends, and shall feel truly rejoiced to be the means of extricating her from her present false and painful position, but I cannot undertake the office on any other terms than those that I proposed to you in the interview with which you favored me, namely:

Her surrender of the deed of appointment, as a sacred provision, to trustees—for her child.

Her written expression of her sincere contrition for her conduct to Lady Byron.

Her return to seclusion in France.

On these terms I will exert myself to the utmost, to obtain for her from her friends a permanent and comfortable domicile in France, and I am convinced that I shall succeed. But on any other terms I cannot feel it right again to interpose. * * * My only object is to effect an arrangement that may conduce to the peace and comfort of all parties, in the most distressing case that ever fell within my knowledge. I feel assured that I have influence enough to accomplish it with one party, if I can bring the other to a full conviction of her duty, no less than her interest.

But still I cannot, even in self-respect, undertake the office of mediator on any terms but such as I feel are honestly due to Lady Byron. I *personally* know the motive as well as the extent of the kindness that she has shown to Miss Leigh, and there are very few, certainly not more than three, who know it as well. She has deserved all that is grateful and all that is respectful at Miss Leigh's hands; and, therefore, till her feelings are consulted and satisfied, so far as, under the present unfortunate circumstances, they can be, I will never approach her, or any of her family, as an intercessor for further assistance. Indeed, from her, personally, I can expect nothing, unless it is to co-operate with others in doing what actual necessity seems to require; but I am confident that none of the high circle to whom my appeal must be made, if made at all, will move in the matter except full atonement is first made to her justly wounded feelings. I remain, Sir, yours, very obediently,

GEORGE STEPHEN.

T. S——, Esq.

It was nearly a month after the receipt of Sir George Stephen's communication, during which time Miss Leigh had repeatedly expressed her willingness to do anything that was required of her by Lady Byron, with the sole exception of delivering up her mother's deed of appointment, that Mr. S—— wrote the following letter to Lady Byron's solicitor (Sir George Stephen:)

SEPTEMBER 4, 1843.

SIR: I have so fully communicated to you in conversation the sentiments of Miss Leigh upon the conditions which you think would through your mediation again procure her the means of existence from Lady Byron, that it is now superfluous to acknowledge formally the receipt of your letter of the 9th August. But as to my deep regret, and I will ever say to my utter astonishment, the spirit of all that I have heard on the part of Lady Byron has been so different from what I think there was reason to expect, I deem it advisable to state in writing that Miss Leigh has always been willing, with or without countervailing advantage to herself, to make any acknowledgments, and to express any contrition, that might be required by Lady Byron, and to come under any reasonable obligation as to her future mode of life; so that, although there was nothing in your offers which could be regarded as a definite undertaking that certain results would follow compliance with certain terms, two of your three conditions were unhesitatingly accepted.

With regard to the third, Miss Leigh is most desirous of preserving entire for herself and her child the provisions in her mother's deed of appointment; but she objects to put it irrevocably under the control of other persons, without some equally irrevocable obligation for her support adequate to the surrender which she would thereby make.

It is, therefore, solely upon this her objection, that I must presume Lady Byron continues in her determination to abandon her to want and misery, insisting upon the surrender of the deed as a test of the sincerity of Miss Leigh's repentance. * * *

But with regard to the branch of the subject which brought me into connection with it, namely the intervention of Captain De B—— to save Miss Leigh and her child from actual want, I may be permitted to express my amazement—and I cannot imagine any discreet and reasonable person not participating in it—that by the cold denial of his claim for reimbursement Lady Byron and her family should have *necessitated* the disclosure which Captain De B—— felt himself bound to make to his agents, of the circumstances under which he was placed by such an unlooked-for result of his readiness to assist an English lady in distress. * * * Relying on the name and character of Lady Byron, he paid, and has continued to pay, for the subsistence of one whom he found her ladyship had been treating as "her other child." For this he received an inquiring visit from a solicitor, and an impression was taken of his motives and conduct, of which I am much mistaken if Lady Byron and her family have not already discovered the erroneousness, and possibly may already feel regret for having entertained.

I conclude this too long letter by asserting emphatically that the earnest desire of Captain De B—— and his friends was to prevent the infliction of a single painful sensation on Lady Byron's mind, either from the effects of present revelations of future consequences to them. Deeply deploring our utter failure in this our object,

I have the honor to be, &c., T. S.

We have now arrived at that stage in the narrative, when it becomes necessary to let Medora Leigh speak for herself, and unfold in her own style and language, what were the peculiar claims she had upon the affection and generosity of Lady Byron, other than that she was in deep poverty and affliction, and that she was really and truly her neice by marriage, and the daughter of Lord Byron's sister. She wrote out and placed in the hands of Mr. S——, that he might know—however painful and discreditable to herself they might be—*all* the circumstances of her life from her fifteenth year, when all her errors and all her sorrows commenced in the shape of an autobiographical memoir. * * *

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY.

I am the fourth child of a family of seven. My eldest sister, Georgiana, married Mr. Henry Trevanion, a distant cousin, in 1826, when I was eleven years old. The marriage, which had met the approbation of no one except my mother, did not turn out very happily, owing to the smallness of fortune and the uneven temper of both parties. I was frequently called in to keep them company and in March, 1828, (after they had been three years married,) it was decided that I should accompany them to a country house which had been placed at my disposal by my aunt Annabella, Lady Byron, during the time of my sister's approaching confinement. The house was in the neighborhood of Canterbury. The last injunctions and admonitions I received from my mother on starting were to devote myself in all thing to please my brother-in-law, Mr. Trevanion; to get rid of the dislike I entertained for him, and to cease ridiculing him, as I had been in the habit of doing. I was urged more particularly to this course of behavior in consideration not alone of his delicate health, but of the poverty which made him peculiarly sensitive. I promised compliance and accompanied them to the country, as my mother and sister had arranged. My sister's illness, before her confinement, was the occasion of my being left much alone with Mr. Trevanion. Indeed, I found myself thrown entirely upon him for society. I was with him both in-doors and out, by day and by night, and was frequently sent by my sister into his bedroom on errands, after every one else in the house had retired to rest. Some months passed in this manner, during which Mr. Trevanion took advantage of my youth and weakness, and effected my ruin, and I found myself likely to become a mother, by one I had ever disliked. Mr. Trevanion, when made aware of my position, implored me to tell Georgiana the truth, and throw him and myself upon her mercy. I did so. My misery and my repentance appeared to move her much; and she blamed herself for having thrown me so much in Henry's (Mr. Trevanion's) way. I was but fifteen years of age at this time—in the year 1831. My sister consulted with her husband as to the steps to be taken, and it was agreed between them that they should ask my mother's permission to take me abroad along with them. Permission was obtained without much difficulty, and when I was within three or four months of my confinement, I was taken by them to Calais. * * * Three months afterwards, when my health was partially restored, Mr. and Mrs. Trevanion returned to England with me—they to the house of an aunt, and I to the house of my mother. * * * During the whole autumn and winter of this year I was constantly left in Henry's (Trevanion's) society, and early in 1831, I, for the second time, found myself likely to become a mother. He begged and entreated me to confide in my mother, and wrote a letter, which I copied and signed, in which I invoked her assistance in my trouble. She burned this letter as soon as she read it, and was at first very kind to me; though she afterwards became very cruel. It was finally agreed between her and Georgiana that I should again leave London, and accompany my sister and her husband to the country. I was not told what part. This was in March, 1831. In June of the same year, or three months afterwards, Colonel Leigh* unexpectedly arrived at the country house, preceded by an attorney and a Sheriff's officer.† These parties having gained admittance, Colonel Leigh drove up to the door in a traveling carriage. His old coachman was on the box, and a woman, intended to represent a lady's maid, sat inside. What ensued was great misery to me. I then believed, though I had been told to the contrary by my sister and her husband, that Colonel Leigh was my father. I wished to spare him the knowledge of my shame. We were never, any of us, taught to love and honor him. But, strange to say, I was his favorite child, and had greater influence over him than any one when he was violent, and would have done anything to hide his faults or spare his feelings. I was allowed to have ten minutes private conversation alone with Henry, during which he exacted a promise from me that I would escape as soon as possible from my mother and run away with him. Col. Leigh proposed to take me home with him, and sent me to my room to prepare for my journey while the carriage waited. I found Georgiana in my room, apparently in great distress of mind. She begged forgiveness of me if she had done me any wrong, assured me that she would immediately procure a divorce, and that then I could marry Henry if disposed to do so. Col. Leigh showed much emotion, as did every one present; but all his grief seemed dispelled at the first turnpike, in his eagerness to pass crooked farthings.

At twelve o'clock at night we arrived in London, and stopped somewhere in the neighborhood of Oxford street, where Colonel Leigh dismissed his own carriage, called a hackney coach from the stand, and made me enter it along with him. We were driven I know not whither, until we arrived at a house where I was given into the charge of a lady. The windows of the room into which I was put were securely nailed and fastened down, and there were outside chains and bolts, and other fastenings to the door. There was every show and ostentation of a prison. During my confinement in this place, Colonel Leigh came to see me three times, when I declined to see him any more. My mother came once. Some religious books were sent to me by one of the aunts, I forget which. After a fortnight, when one day, looking into the street from the closed window, I recognized Trevanion driving by with Georgiana, he saw me; and afterwards, for another fortnight, continued to drive by almost every day. Notes were sewed in my linen when it came from the wash, I did not know by whom, but I suspected by my sister. By this means I was enabled to understand the signs he made to me when he drove past the house. One day the lady to whose care I had been intrusted told me that if I liked to walk out of the house nobody would stop me, and showed me how to remove the chains affixed to the door. I did not hesitate in any choice between two evils, but at once put on bonnet, followed her instructions, and found Trevanion outside waiting to receive me. We left the street with all possible haste and secresy, which we might have spared ourselves, as nobody attempted to follow us.

We made our way to the continent, and for two years after this time lived together as man and wife on the coast of Normandy, under the assumed name of Mons. and Mme. Aubin. My sister applied for the divorce as promised, but Trevanion informed me some time after that it could not be obtained. * * * I wrote to my mother, informing her of my earnest desire and intention to enter as a boarder in a convent in Lower Britanny. The letter remained unanswered for a considerable time; but after much delay and difficulty I left Trevanion and entered a convent, my mother engaging to allow me £60 a year. But I was again likely to become a mother. * * * Trevanion was not under the same roof with me, and from the time I entered the convent I never was but as a sister to him. After eight months I gave birth to my little girl (who still lives), to H.'s (Trevanion's) great joy. At that time an uncle of H.'s undertook to come and see him, and he, discovering that I was no longer in a convent, wrote to my mother. We (Trevanion and I) continued to live on, in an old chateau, in a secret and unfrequented spot, in great poverty, but as brother and sister. Henry at this time gave himself up wholly to religion and shooting; I to my child. We never met alone, and seldom met at all. Sixteen months afterwards poverty forced H. to go to England, and after an absence of six weeks he returned with money. Then I saw remains of what I had thought wholly extinguished—his passionate attachment to me. But I was no longer a child—I was 21; and two years experience had enabled me to know how to resist. I pass over three years of misery; but I am willing to give every detail of what I was made to suffer, though I do not think it absolutely necessary to do so. * * * My greatest wish was to die away from him. Through Mr. C.'s means I wrote to my mother, and my aunt, Lady Chichester, informing them of my position, and imploring the means to free myself. I obtained £5, left Trevanion's roof and went to the neighboring town, where I continued to receive most affectionate letters from my mother, but very little money. I endeavored to persuade her to allow me regularly £120 per annum—the smallest sum I could live on in a very cheap place. She promised, but did not perform; so that after a year and a half I found I should be compelled, as I was advised to do, to sell the reversion to £3,000 which I had, with some difficulty, obtained as a provision for my child, after my death, if I did not wish to be forced to return to Mr. Trevanion. During some months the correspondence between myself and my mother continued as affectionate as ever, I endeavoring all the while to obtain from her the means of existence, and she retaining the deed. At length I wrote to my aunt, Lady Chichester, who had sent me the £5, begging her influence to obtain the deed for me, and to Sir George Stephen, to whom I had applied to sell the reversion, stating that I was sure my aunt, Lady Noel Byron, would use any influence she might possess with my mother to induce her to give up to me that which was my right. * * * On Sir George Stephen forwarding my letter to Lady Byron, I received a most kind and affectionate letter from Lady Byron, and money, with offers of protection for myself and child, and the power of quitting a neighborhood which was most painful to me. This was in August, 1840. I willingly and joyfully accepted these offers, and accompanied a medical gentleman whom Lady Byron had sent, and met her at Tours, where it was first thought I should reside. Lady Byron proposed, however, that I should accompany her to Paris, and remain with her for a time. I did so, being desirous of attending to the least wishes of one towards whom I had reason to feel so grateful.

At Fontainbleau, where she was detained by illness, Lady Byron informed me of the cause of the deep interest she felt and must ever feel for me. Her husband had been my father. She implored and sought my affection by every means; and almost exacted my confidence to the most unlimited extent. Her only wish, she said, was to provide for me according to Lord Byron's intentions respecting me, and according to my rank in life. There was a Chancery suit begun against my mother to obtain possession of the deed. All these circumstances decided me on staying with Lady Byron till that should be settled. I received money from her in small sums and presents, but nothing was definitely settled. We continued nine or ten months in Paris. At the latter period of this time, Ada and Lord Lovelace came over, and I received kindness and promises from both, and was made to feel that I was to be Ada's sister in all things, as I was really. In May, 1841, I accompanied Lady Byron to England and remained for a few months, during which she showed me letters of Lord Byron, relating to her separation, which as she afterwards said, might be useful in the Chancery suit. * * * In May, 1842, my long anxiety in the matter of the Chancery suit was ended. The suit was concluded in a way, and without consultation with me, that showed me that all that had been promised me, unsolicited and unsought, was not sincere, and that I had been in a manner sacrificed in my mother's interest. I openly exposed to Lady Byron all I felt, and my determination of leaving England immediately, and solicited from her (Lady Byron) the means to do so. * * * Matters continued unsettled, and my increasing ill health made me desirous of immediately quitting England and going to the south of France, where I had long been ordered (by medical advice) to go. In July, 1842, there began a correspondence, talking of conditions, that I had never heard of till then, informing me that Lady Byron would allow me £150 per annum for my maintenance. * * * I informed Lady Byron of my belief that it would be impossible for me to live where she proposed, at Hyeres, for £150 per annum; that I would endeavor to do so, but that I would not, as in the past, suffer poverty and privation; and that whatever sum in addition (to the £150) should be necessary for my health and Marie's education, I should endeavor to procure in some other way. To this she answered, 'How can you imagine I will ever let you want either?' * * * Lady Byron sent me £40 to travel to Hyeres with, recommending me to travel in the most comfortable way, &c. * * * After consultation with Ada and Lord Lovelace, it was thought best I should leave, and I left England on Friday evening, the 22d of July, 1842. And partly in order to prove to Lady Byron my earnest wish to please her still, and on my maid's solicitation on account of their importance, in the event of my death, I left a box of letters and papers with Lady Noel Byron's housekeeper, to be given to Lady Byron on her return to Moore Place; and the deed of appointment to Ada on her leaving me at six o'clock that evening, to be deposited with Lord Lovelace's papers at Ockham. The deed I had kept till then in my own possession, and intended doing so, fearing to let it again escape me.* When she (Lady Byron), never acknowledged their receipt in any letter, I was still far from suspecting she would do what she is now doing—making her lawyer give evasive answers, and denying me what I intrusted with confidence to her honor."

[The concluding portion of Miss Leigh's narrative is not in her own handwriting, and appears to have been written to her dictation.]

* * * * * * *

"Though I traveled as expeditiously as my health allowed—and much more so—on arriving at Lyons, there was not money enough to pay the boat, &c.; and from the arrangements, much difficulty in obtaining the £37 from the bankers there. After three days we proceeded on our journey, but on arriving at Hyeres we were again without (money.) I wrote, and my maid also wrote, as she had been requested to do in case of increased illness, and Lady Byron suggested my moving elsewhere to a cheaper place. To concur in all her wishes, a country house about three-quarters of a league from Toulon was hired. I wrote, as well as my man servant—sending the accounts monthly, with every detail. She (Lady Byron) approved of all, but in November wrote concerning the rent of the house, of which I told my man servant, who was responsible, and whom Lady Byron wished to stay with me till further notice. * * * She exacted receipts from me of all the sums that had been paid, saying, I had received them in the name of my maid. I wrote briefly back, regretting only that she could say or think what was so far from being true."

[At this point the narrative becomes so confused as to be all but intelligible; but it is reprinted *verbatim et literatim*, in order that possible injustice may not be done by any attempt to put it into a shape that might be erroneous.]

"The bankers who paid the money informed them it was paid by Lady Noel Byron's orders—her own arrangements having been what she accused me of; and refused, till I heard further, giving the signature required. From her answer—in which she informed me of the necessity of having that signature to answer the malicious interpretation her conduct, from peculiar circumstances, might be guilty of towards me, and which my signature alone could answer—and also finding she would send more to answer the 800 francs due for the rent she had long been aware must be paid by the 20th of December; and, being without any, I gave the signature of my maid's having faithfully paid me the several sums, and at the same time asked for £20, necessary for an arrangement for my little girl's education.

Lady Byron returned no answer to the £20 I had asked, but sent expressions of affection, &c., which I could neither trust nor value. * * * In March, 1843, I went to Paris, of which I informed Lady Byron as briefly as possible, and consulted Mr. Berryer, who promised to write and use his influence, which he did not doubt would succeed. Finding this delayed, I wrote to Lady Byron, and explained why I came to Paris. To this I received no answer, but a visit from Miss Davison, to tell me I must beg Lady Byron's pardon, and assure me of her affection.† I waited an answer to my letter. My servants wrote; M. Berryer waited, and thus things continued till the beginning of May. * * * Early in May my maid came and told me one Sunday afternoon that Dr. King had come from Lady Byron and had asked for Miss Leigh. I refused to see him, and told him to communicate with M. Berryer, who at last—but only two or three days previously—had written to Lady Byron. He waited some time, and sent me an accusation (sic) and a proposal from Lady Byron that I should resign to her all control over myself and child. This I instantly refused, and told him, through my maid and M. Berryer, that he might leave Paris within the forty-eight hours, as he threatened to do, for I should never sign. On the Wednesday he sent a humble supplicating letter, asking to see me. To comply with M. Berryer's wish I did so. He showed letters, &c., on which, and after some days' calculation and divers propositions, he offered me £300 a year. * * * I refused to sign. I submitted to all the abuse he was pleased to bestow—though it contributed all the more to make me refuse—when he said, 'Sign, sign, you great fool.' He left Paris the next morning; and on my writing to Messrs. Wharton to forward the deed to Paris to M. Berryer, they refused unless I would send a person to them to receive it; informing me at the same time that, had I signed, the conditions would not have been fulfilled; the same to M. Berryer, informing him that I had contracted the deed on certain conditions. Lady Byron wrote to my maid, informing her of her illness. * * * I went with her letter to M. Berryer, who recommended my going to Mr. Bulwer, of the British Embassy, who instantly said it was of the greatest importance to prevent her getting possession of the deed. I acted according to his instructions, and awaited the result of an interview he was to have with M. Berryer, who, he said, had not sufficiently considered the case. He recommended that I should conciliate Lady Byron; but, above all, he distrusted my servants. They behaved most insolently, and every day my misery increased. Captain De B—— came to Paris and called upon me. He agreed with M. Berryer that I ought to go to England and conciliate Lady Byron, if it were possible. He refused to listen to the details of my past life, or even to look at letters relating to my present. He had only known me in the south of France as Madame Aubin, and I had a grateful recollection of the kindness I had received from him as such, listened with confidence to the advice he gave me, acted in accordance with it, and by his means was enabled to come to England.

* * * * * * *

Since I have been in London Sir George Stephen has called. I have received anonymous letters. Lord Chichester has written twice requesting me not to reject Lady Byron's kindness, liberality and generosity, all of which I am ignorant after the past, and Capt. F——'s interview with Mr. Warton.

This is a brief sketch of a long life of misery and sorrow. Whatever is not clear or too brief I can explain. I have done my best to make it clear, particularly in all that relates to Lady Byron, whom, if I could, I would still believe kind in her intentions, though far from kind in her actions. Now, I cannot, though I would, say otherwise than that she has cruelly deceived me, and is as guilty in thus oppressing and driving me to the utmost extremity as the mother, who has only made me the instrument to serve her avarice and the sacrifice to be made to those she feared.

[Signed] ELIZABETH MEDORA.

In addition to this minute and painful narrative, that bears upon it the impress of truthfulness, as far as the belief and conviction of the writer are concerned—though colored perhaps by her passion, her prejudices, or even her ignorance, or it might even be said, her innocence of the world's ways, though she was by no means innocent of evil, and does not represent herself as being so—Miss Leigh wrote in a shorter form an epitome of the events of her unhappy life, which was forwarded by her to the Duke of Leeds, who, like herself, was a descendant of the Baroness Conyers, and to whom she had applied, as she did to many other relatives, for advice and assistance. The copy of this letter was inclosed to Mr. S——, by Captain De B——. * * *

[The letter to the Duke of Leeds recites the sad story already related, and begs that nobleman's assistance.]

* * * Before writing the letter to the Duke of Leeds, and making application to various other relatives, Miss Leigh had made efforts to communicate with or see her mother. In a note from Captain De B—— to Mr. S—— dated the 19th of August, the former states: "Miss Leigh has not received any answer to any of her notes forwarded on Saturday. She called on her mother, but was refused. 'Not at home!' Miss Leigh has a wish to forward the enclosed, (three letters,) perhaps you may be able to put the addresses upon them. Should anything transpire, I will lose no time in letting you know. If you should not approve of the letter to Mrs. Leigh, retain it."

A memorandum on the back of Captain De B——'s note, dated August 16, shows that its receipt was acknowledged in the following terms next day:

"I received your note with Miss Leigh's three inclosures. We (Mr. S—— and his partner) think that to Mrs. Leigh is very proper and natural under the circumstances; but is it not somewhat premature? A day or two may make an important change, and we think a short time may yet be given for answers to the letters already sent. We claim them till we see or hear from you."

Two of the letters were addressed to Miss Leigh's cousins, Hon. D'Arcy Osborne and Hon. W. Osborne, and were as follows:

NO. 8 CHURCH ROW, ST. PANCRAS, }
August 11, 1843. }

When I was a happy child, you used to be kind and good natured to me. Now that I am in suffering and misery, will you refuse me what I am compelled to ask of all who will give it me—aid and protection? I am sure you will not, if you will let me tell you why I am so. Your cousin,

ELIZABETH MEDORA LEIGH.

To Hon. Wm. Osborne.

NO. 8 CHURCH ROW, ST. PANCRAS, }
August 14, 1843. }

I have thought that, though so many long years have gone since we met, you will not have forgotten, or refuse to befriend, one you were once fond of—destitute, alone in the world, forced to seek aid and protection from all who give it. I do not think you will refuse to listen and hear why I am so, and then accord me the help and assistance that are in your power. If I am mistaken in so thinking, forgive this application from

Your cousin,
ELIZABETH MEDORA LEIGH.

The third letter, the one to Mrs. Leigh, is the most painful of all the documents in this unhappy case, and must have been written under deep feelings of irritation, caused by her mother's refusal to see her or admit her into her house. It is of such a nature, that, after mature deliberation, we have deemed it both expedient and proper to exclude it from these pages.

Whether Mrs. Leigh were innocent of the charge against her—which we believe and shall attempt to prove hereafter—or guilty, of which there is no evidence, it is not likely that a letter such as this was, haughty, unfilial and cruel, could have any effect in softening her heart towards her daughter. That it was actually sent to her appears from a letter of Captain De B—— to Mr. S——, dated more than five weeks afterwards:

* * * * * * *

An additional letter from Miss Leigh to Captain De B——'s agent will complete the correspondence. It would appear from Captain De B——'s previous communication that it was in contemplation to ask the aid of a Police Magistrate, with what distinct object it is now impossible to ascertain, though it may not unreasonably be suspected that it had reference to the missing box of family papers:

MY DEAR SIR: I called on Mr. S—— on Friday morning, being anxious that my affairs should terminate; and he begged that I should write and ask you to name the time when it would be convenient for me to see and confer with you as to the steps to be taken, which I would do at your office.

I am, my dear Sir, yours very sincerely,
ELIZABETH MEDORA LEIGH.
Thursday, October 12, 1843.
Address Mme. Aubin, No. 18 Aldenham Terrace, Old St. Pancras Road.

This ends the correspondence that came into the possession of the friends and correspondents of Capt. De B——, in connection with Miss Leigh. It does not appear that the threatened application to Bow street was ever made, or that any reconciliation between Miss Leigh and Lady Byron was ever effected. Upon this subject Mr. S——, in a letter dated the 24th of September, 1869, twenty-six years after the time in which these events occurred, and forty-five years after the death of Lord Byron, writes: "I did not succeed in my endeavors, and my failure is somewhat contradictory of Mrs. Beecher Stowe's statement that Lady Byron never faltered, never gave over in motherly tenderness towards the lady whom she calls 'the child of sin.' I ascertained at the same time (1843) that the so-called 'secret' was known to very many persons besides Dr. Lushington and Sir George Stephen, and I do not know how to reconcile this fact with the 'dignified and magnanimous silence' claimed as a merit for Lady Byron; for if she did not impart the knowledge, who else can have done so?"

It is possible, however, although the circumstances may never have come to the knowledge of Captain De B—— or Mr. S——, that at some after time, when Miss Leigh passed out of their vision, she may have agreed to *all* the terms demanded of her by Lady Byron, been restored to her favor and protection, and ended her days in the receipt of her bounty.

However that may be, Miss Leigh, with her sorrows and her sufferings, and bearing with her her little daughter Marie, disappeared at the close of the year 1843, from the great, heartless, busy, cruel world of London, and soon afterwards sank into that beneficent grave where "the wicked cease from troubling, and the weary are at rest." * * * * Her mother, her mother's husband, Lady Byron, her sister, and her sister's husband, all the persons mainly implicated in her story, have all followed her to the tomb, and her narrative and the story told by Lady Byron to Mrs. Stowe, remain the only foundation on which Lady Byron's awful charge against her husband's memory can rest, as far as is known to the world. We have already endeavored to show that Lady Byron's story, as told by Mrs. Stowe, cannot be true, unless Lady Byron herself were at one and the same time a paragon of superhuman and of angelic virtue, and one of the most heartless hypocrites that ever lived. We now proceed to examine into the truth of Miss Leigh's allegations, to compare the two narratives together, and to show that this odious charge against Lord Byron was not concocted until long after his death.

Part III. of the volume is occupied with a "Recapitulation of the narration of Mrs. Beecher Stowe and Medora Leigh and vindication of Lord Byron," the object of which is to prove that while Medora Leigh is to be believed so far as her story regarding Mr. Trevanion is concerned, her statements about Lord Byron being her father are untrustworthy. In an appendix are given reminiscences of conversations with Lord Byron in Greece, in 1823, which have no special bearing upon the object of the book itself, but which help like a great deal of other matter in the volume to pull it to a suitable size.

We have probably given enough of this "autobiography" to satisfy the curiosity of those whose interest in this controversy has long since turned to disgust.

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*Her supposed father, and the husband of Mrs. Leigh.

†Miss Leigh, in her ignorance of the world, appears to have mistaken a doctor, or a keeper from a private insane asylum for a Sheriff's officer.

*It would appear from this, though Miss Leigh omitted to mention the fact in its proper place in her narrative, that by means of the Chancery suit she had recovered the deed from her mother.—ED.

†It seems as if the pronouns were misplaced in this passage, and that it should read, "and assure *her* of my affection."—ED.

A NEW POEM BY JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL.

American literature has produced few poems, if any, likely to stand higher in the estimation of posterity, than "The Cathedral," by James Russell Lowell, which will be first presented to the public in the January number of the *Atlantic Monthly*. We have room only to present a few extracts from a production the grandeur and beauty of which is apparent even in these detached scraps. Here is a strain of exquisite music to begin with:—

"The bird I hear sings not from yonder elm;
But the flown ecstasy my childhood heard
Is vocal in my mind, renewed by him,
Haply made sweeter by the accumulate thrill
That threads my undivided life and steals
A pathos from the years and graves between.
I know not how it is with other men,
Whom I but guess, deciphering myself;
For me, once felt is so felt nevermore.
The fleeting relish at sensation's brim
Had in it the best ferment of the wine.
One spring I knew as never any since:
All night the surges of the warm southwest
Boomed intermittent through the shuddering elms,
And brought a morning from the Gulf adrift,
Omnipotent with sunshine, whose quick charm
Startled with crocuses the sullen turf
And wiled the bluebird to his whiff of song;
One summer hour abides, what time I perched,
Dappled with noonday, under simmering leaves,
And pulled the pulpy oxhearts, while aloof
An oriole clattered and the robins shrilled,
Denouncing me an alien and a thief;
One morn of autumn lords it o'er the rest,
When in the lane I watched the ash-leaves fall,
Balancing softly earthward without wind,
Or twirling with directer impulse down
On those fallen yesterday, now barbed with frost,
While I grew pensive with the pensive year:
And once I learned how marvellous winter was,
When past the fence rails, downy-gray with rime,
I creaked adventurous o'er the spangled crust
That made familiar fields seem far and strange
As those stark wastes that whiten endlessly
In ghastly solitude about the pole,
And gleam relentless to the unsetting sun:
Instant the candid chambers of my brain
Were painted with these sovran images;
And later visions seem but copies pale
From those unfading frescoes of the past,
Which I, young savage, in my age of flint,
Gazed at, and dimly felt a power in me
Parted from Nature by the joy in her
That doubtfully revealed me to myself.
Thenceforward I must stand outside the gate;
And paradise was paradise the more,
Known once and barred against satiety."

Here is another passage, full of tenderness and beauty—

"I, that still pray at morning and at eve,
Loving those roots that feed us from the past,
And prizing more than Plato things I learned
At that best academe, a mother's knee,
Thrice in my life perhaps have truly prayed,
Thrice, stirred below my conscious self, have felt
That perfect disenthralment which is God;
Nor know I which to hold worst enemy—
Him who on speculation's windy waste
Would turn me loose, stript of the raiment warm
By Faith contrived against our nakedness,
Or him who, cruel kind, would fain obscure,
With painted saints and paraphrase of God,
The soul's east-window of divine surprise."

But let us enter the Cathedral with the poet:—

"And the whole pile, grim with the Northman's thought
Of life and death, and doom, life's equal fee,—
These were before me; and I gazed abashed,
Child of an age that lectures, not creates,
Plastering our swallow nests on the awful Past,
And twittering round the work of larger men,
As we had builded what we but deface.
Far up the great bells wallowed in delight,
Tossing their clangors o'er the heedless town,
To call the worshippers who never came,
Or women mostly, in loath twos and threes.
I entered, reverent of whatever shrine
Guards piety and solace for my kind,
Or gives the soul a moment's truce of God,
And shared decorous in the ancient rite
My sterner fathers held idolatrous.
The service over, I was tranced in thought:
Solemn the deepening vaults, and most to me,
Fresh from the fragile realm of deal and paint,
Or brick mock-pious with a marble front;
Solemn the lift of high-embowered roof,
The clustered stems that spread in boughs disleaved,
Through which the organ blew a dream of storm—
Though not more potent to sublime with awe
And shut the heart up in tranquility,
Than aisles to me familiar that o'erarch
The conscious silences of brooding woods,
Centurial shadows, cloisters of the elk:
Yet here was sense of undefined regret,
Irreparable loss, uncertain what:
Was all this grandeur but anachronism,—
A shell divorced of its informing life,
Where the priest housed him like a hermit-crab,
An alien to that faith of elder days
That gathered round it this fair shape of stone?
Is old Religion but a spectre now,
Haunting the solitude of darkened minds,
Mocked out of memory by the sceptic day?
Is there no corner safe from peeping Doubt,
Since Gutenberg made thought cosmopolite
And stretched electric threads from mind to mind?

* * * * * * * * *

"I turned and saw a beldame on her knees;
With eyes astray, she told mechanic beads
Before some shrine of saintly womanhood,
Bribed intercessor with the far off Judge:
Such my first thought, by kindlier soon rebuked,
Pleading for whatsoever touches life
With upward impulse: be He nowhere else,
God is in all that liberates and lifts,
In all that humbles, sweetens, and consoles:
Blessed the natures shored on every side
With landmarks of hereditary thought!
Thrice happy they that wander not lifelong
Beyond near succor of the household faith,
The guarded fold that shelters, not confines!
Their steps find patience in familiar paths,
Printed with hope by loved feet gone before
Of parent, child, or lover, glorified
By simple magic of dividing Time.
My lids were moistened as the woman knelt,
And—was it will, or some vibration faint
Of sacred Nature, deeper than the will?—
My heart occultly felt itself in hers,
Through mutual intercession gently leagued."

What Madame Ristori Thinks of Us.

We are glad to learn, as we do from more than one source, that Madame Ristori has met with such brilliant and continued success in Brazil, where the Emperor has been one of her most enthusiastic and demonstrative admirers. There, as was the case here, the social honors paid to the women of generous and noble impulses, of fine culture and of noble intellect, have been as marked as those enforced by her performances on the stage.

With all these, however, she does not forget the country which handsomely appreciated her genius and personal worth, and whose people and institutions she, in return, appreciated with such heartfelt admiration. How she regards the United States may be seen from an extract which we are permitted to take from a recent private letter addressed to Miss Kate Field.

Madame Ristori says:

"Can I ever forget your *dear* country, where I passed a year and a half so delightfully, receiving the warmest testimonies of affection from every class of society, enjoying perfect health, breathing in air charged with vitality, and feasting my eyes on skies as blue as those of Italy! Who could have started the report of my having anathematized the climate of the United States? The statement is false. I always speak of your country with enthusiasm, bearing its memory engraved upon my heart and wishing that a provokingly wide and indigestible sea did not separate me from people that I long to meet again."

We know that there are thousands in this country who will be glad to see from this unstudied expression of Madame Ristori's sentiments, which were never intended for the public, that the great actress remains true to the affection which she formed for the scene of her greatest triumphs. And we doubt not that, could they be consulted on the subject, they would join us in sending back to her a message of equally pleasant import. May we some time see her here once again, for her like we shall never see on our stage!

A CORRESPONDENT who has seen the Russian crown jewels, says they are kept in the highest room of the palace. The staircases are lofty, and the ascent is tedious. Four tried and faithful servants of the realm keep watch and ward—two within and two without. The great Orloff diamond turned its basilisk reflection full upon me. This overtops the Koh-i-noor by eight carats in weight, and I am satisfied the greenish tint and the flaw lessen it only to the groveling mind. Big? I could hardly see it. It was the size of a knob on a bedpost. The imperial crowns of both Emperor and Empress were adorned with noble jewels: the former resembling a patriarchal miter, dome-shaped, carries on its summit a cross formed of five magnificent diamonds, and supported by a very large, uncut, spinal ruby. Eleven great diamonds, in a foliated arch rising from the front and back, support this ruby and cross, assisted by a hoop of pearls. The band for the brow carries twenty-eight large brilliants. The orb is surmounted by a great sapphire, greenish and blue, and a huge and very long diamond. The coronet of the Empress is a beautiful mass of exquisite gems. Apart from those above mentioned, and a lot of great emeralds, the collection is not so striking as that of Saxony. This may be traceable to the fact that much of it still retains its old silver setting, not calculated for the best advantageous display. It is kept covered up with old linen cloths.

THE NEXT LEGISLATURE.

The Ring Fight for the Treasury—Legislative Reforms.

The Erie *Pennsylvanian* asks "Will the circle be broken?" and says: "It seems, after so much publicity has been given to the doings of the Pennsylvania Treasury ring, and so much opposition brought to bear against it, that the probabilities of its defeat might be very fair. Many things are known to have been done by this gang of sharpers who make Harrisburg their winter residence, which would be punished as a penitentiary offense if done outside of a political organization. In using the office of Treasurer as a hinge upon which to swing their political movements, they also use the means in the Treasury for the advancement of their personal and pecuniary ends. To break up this foul organization and disband it forever, should be the purpose of every honest legislator; and all the facts in connection with the matter being so well known to the people, it would seem as though no representative, whether implicated in the success of the ring or not, would dare oppose the wishes of his constituents in this matter. Yet it seems as though there was hardly a probability of bringing about a defeat of the ring. So skilled are these men in conducting their operations that they have but little to do after they get into the field. All their plans are laid and men picked, and failure is only brought about by the treachery of some of the operators. To absolutely prove them guilty of neglecting the interests of the State, and of abusing the power of their position, is almost impossible, as they admit none to their ranks except men who are true to the ring, because they dare not expose their own treachery. But let us hope that the effort now being made to accomplish their overthrow may succeed, and in order to aid in the movement all that is possible, every citizen should demand of his representatives that they should not fail to stand squarely on the issue and work for it."

Discussing the question of legislative reforms, the Pottsville *Journal*, a staunch Republican paper, edited by the veteran, Benjamin F. Bauman, says: "The election of State Treasurer by the people would be better than the present system: but without the law is changed, and a fair salary paid, and the funds placed by law directly under the control of the State, with all interest paid on its deposit declared to belong to the State, the corruption arising from it would only be mitigated but not checked. We are in favor of the Legislature passing a law authorizing the call of a State Convention to amend our State Constitution in many other respects, in order to check bribery and corruption in our Legislative Halls. We are in favor of increasing the number of Senators to one hundred, and the number of Representatives to four hundred, and electing the members from single districts, all over the State, the same as they are elected in Philadelphia. Fixing their salary in the Constitution, and limiting the sessions to a period not exceeding sixty days. Making general laws for all corporations required, involving an expenditure of over $50,000, and all others to be obtained from the county courts, by giving notice of the same. This would rid the Legislature of much of the corruption that now exists, and as each member would be held directly responsible to the district he represents, they would hardly have time or inclination to conduct much corruption. We would elect Senators for two instead of three years. Our State Constitution wants overhauling in many other respects."

The Media, Delaware county, *Republican* expresses its views upon the Treasury question as follows: "Many of the papers of the State are now, properly enough, agitating such a change in the law as will take from the State Treasurer the power to make money by temporarily loaning that of the State. The legal salary is so small that it is inconsiderable, and yet a bitter contest is now waged for the position, and nearly every other Legislative position is, by the hooks and crooks of wire pulling, made to hinge upon it. This has been equally true of all former years, and the natural presumption is that there is more milk in the cocoa-nut than $1,700 a year. The law ought to be so changed as to give to the State the profit heretofore derived by the Treasurer. The Criminal Code already authorizes fine and imprisonment if any officer of the State, or any city, borough, county or township shall loan any money or securities entrusted to his keeping, but it is rarely if ever enforced. We like the suggestion, to make the State Treasurer and all other prominent and controlling State officers elective by the people, with fair salaries attached to their position, but no perquisites. This course will directly tend to the destruction of Legislative rings."

The Oil City *Times*, referring to the "stop thief" cry of the Harrisburg *Telegraph*, Beaver *Radical*, and journals of lesser note, relative to an alleged alliance of Republicans and Democrats in the organization of the next Legislature, says: "Quite a number of Republican journals come to the rescue in a manner which reminds one of the Chinese mode of warfare, which consists principally in beating big drums and blowing hearse trumpets to intimidate the foe. So far from being frightened by the loud noises which the papers are making, the advocates of economy see in it a sign of weakness, and will close up their ranks with renewed confidence of ultimate success. It is laughable to read the comments of some of these members of the forlorn hope. The Armstrong *Republican* classes the papers which oppose the 'slate' as Democratic journals, doubtless arrogating to itself and confreres all the true Republican journalism in the State. The Pittsburgh *Dispatch* has discovered the formation of an alliance between the Republican Assemblymen and the Democrats in the House by which an honest Republican is to be elected Treasurer, and a couple of Republican senators ousted; and so well informed is that paper of the combination, that it gives the amount of money which has been raised to carry it out, &c. The energy displayed by these newspapers, in trying to secure a victory for their candidates, is worthy a better cause, but for the sake of the Republican party, which is pledged to Retrenchment and Reform, it is to be hoped they will not succeed. If every Assemblyman is true to his constituents, the result is not doubtful."

A correspondent of the Montrose *Republican* in discussing "rings," says: "The exceptionable 'ring' of our day, I conceive to be the unprincipled men, professedly opposing parties, who unite to *aid each other at the cost of their parties or of the public good. They betray their party, they plunder the country, they corrupt the public morals for their own greed of money and power. Men honestly differing* in their views of public policy, and standing together to carry them out, are to be respected, while those of *no settled views, intent on private ends only*, at once attach to *themselves* suspicion and distrust."

THE BUSINESS FUTURE.

No Occasion for Fobodings—1870 Prosperous.

The *Financial Chronicle* concludes a survey of the business future as follows: "In view of this steady and natural process of reaction from inflation, we are at a loss to conceive of the grounds for the vague and settled conviction, now so general, that the financial and commercial arrangements growing out of the war must sooner or later issue in general panic and insolvency. There could be no better guarantee against such a catastrophe than the universal caution which now prevails. The sentiment of the country is essentially conservative. An expansion of the currency would be so unpopular to the people at large, that there are few members of Congress who have the daring to propose such a measure; no enterprises can be floated which do not present good evidence of soundness; Wall street speculators find it far more difficult to promote an advance in stocks than a decline; and upon the question of specie payments there is a marked conversion of public opinion in favor of an early adoption of the measure. These are plain indications of a wholesome commercial sentiment, such as usually precedes public prosperity, and cannot, with any congruity, be regarded as the forerunner of panic.

A fair survey of the condition of the country appears to us to warrant the expectation of a steady, prosperous business in 1870. The abundant crops of this year should certainly lay the basis of an improved trade. Our grain crops have been such as to reduce the prices of flour to about the figures of 1860. The wool crop has been so abundant as to reduce the value of that staple to about ante-war prices. The production of coal is so ample that, in spite of artificial manipulation of the retail market, the late high prices can be no longer maintained, while the decline in gold naturally contributes to a generally lower scale of prices. We thus have a condition of affairs calculated to lower by a natural process, the general costs of living, which supplies one of the chief prerequisites to a reduction in the scale of wages, the high rates of which are still the bane of our industrial progress."

The Wonders of an Atom.

All things visible around us are aggregations of atoms. From particles of dust, which under the microscope could scarcely be distinguished one from the other, are all the varied forms of nature created. This grain of dust, this particle of sand, has strange properties and powers. Science has discovered some, but still more truths are hidden within this irregular molecule of matter which we now survey than even philosophy dares dream of. How strangely it obeys the impulses of heat—mysterious are the influences of light upon it—electricity wonderfully excites it—and still more curious is the manner in which it obeys the magic of chemical force. These are phenomena which we have seen; we know them and we can reproduce them at our pleasure. We have advanced a little way into the secrets of nature, and from the spot we have gained we look forward with vision somewhat brightened by our task; but we discover so much to be yet unknown, that we learn another truth—our vast ignorance of many things relating to this grain of dust. It gathers around it other particles; they cling together and each acting upon every other one, and all of them arranging themselves around the little center according to some law, a beautiful crystal results, the geometric perfection of its form being a source of admiration. It exerts some other powers, and atom adhering to atom, obeying the influences of many external radiant forces undergoes inexplicable changes; and the same dust which we find forming the diamond aggregates into the lordly tree, blends to produce the graceful, scented, and richly painted flower, and combines to yield the luxury of fruit. It quickens with yet undiscovered energies; it moves with life; dust and vital force combine; blood and bone, nerve and muscle result from the combination. Forces which we cannot, by the utmost refinements of our philosophy detect, direct the whole, and from the same dust which formed the rock and grew in the tree, is produced a living and a breathing thing, capable of receiving a divine illumination, of bearing in its new state the gladness and the glory of a soul.—*Hunt's Poetry of Science.*

AN American in London writes as follows: Of course, if an independent and comfort-seeking Yankee or Buckeye is seen by some Trollope or Dickens to throw his legs into mighty attitudes, the whole American people are suspected to be clowns, and have been so described, till half the refined British public believe us to be so. I am often amused by the exclamations of some of these excellent ingenuous people: "Why, I would never have fancied that you were American! I supposed you were English! Well, really of late, I have met several very clever Americans. I believe there are some very clever persons in America, are there not?" Clever or not clever, and bad as Boston may be getting, or as New York is, no such scandalous and painful sights and sounds strike the senses in the fashionable or in any thoroughfares of those cities as a summer or autmn night will expose in the highways of Liverpool and London.

THE PEABODY FUNERAL.

The Removal of the Remains from Westminster Abbey on Board the Monarch.

The last foreign mail brings the details of the removal of Mr. Peabody's remains from Westminster Abbey to the Monarch, lying at Portsmouth. The removal took place on the 11th inst. The London *News* says that "in deference to the wishes of those who have been charged with the embarkation, the entire proceedings were conducted with as much privacy as the nature of the occasion permitted. The coffin was taken from Westminster Abbey in almost a secret manner. At half past seven o'clock in the morning, before it was light the Dean of Westminster, accompanied by Lord John Thynne, the subdean, met Mr. George Peabody Russell, the eldest male representative of the family; Sir Curtis Lampson and Mr. Charles Reed, M. P., the two executors, at the temporary vault, near the western entrance; and without formality of any kind, the coffin, which had been enclosed within a special case, covered with black cloth, was transferred to the private station of the railway company. During the morning numbers of persons lingered around the approaches to the Abbey, expecting to witness the removal, the general idea being that it would be at noon. During the temporary resting of the body in its place of honor visitors in large numbers came to the Abbey to see the spot, although all that was visible was a large square of black cloth, with a few immortelles marking the whereabouts of the vault.

A SINGULAR COINCIDENCE.

It was often noticed, as at least a singular coincidence, that one of the few monuments in the Abbey bearing reference to America was placed within a few yards of the late philanthropist's remains, and the singularity was heightened by the circumstance that the tablet recorded events connected with the history of Mr. Peabody's own State—Massachusetts. This monument is the memorial erected by order of "the Province of Massachusetts Bay, in New England, by an order of the great and general court, bearing date of February 1, 1759," to the memory of Brigadier General Viscount Howe, who in the July of the previous year was slain while marching His Majesty's forces to Ticonderoga. The gallant officer was only thirty-three years old, and during the troubles we had at that time with the French, he had done good service, not only to his own country, but the New England State. It was under the shadow of this tribute to the worth of an Englishman by Massachusetts that in the dim light of this morning final homage was paid to the worth of a Massachusetts man by England.

FROM LONDON TO PORTSMOUTH.

The special train left London at midday, containing in addition to the relatives and executors above mentioned Mr. Motley, the American Ambassador; Mr. Morgan, representing the trustees of the Peabody fund, and Mr. Sowerby, the deceased's secretary. Along the line, at Guildford especially, crowds at the railway stations as the train passed showed their silent sympathy with its object. In Portsmouth, where the rain had been pouring for some time, few preparations had been made, willing as the inhabitants were to manifest their respect to Mr. Peabody's memory. The tempestuous weather, however, did not prevent some hundreds of spectators exposing themselves to cold and wet for an hour or two in order to witness the embarkation.

The train, without halting at the station, came through the dockyard to within a few feet of the Monarch. The municipal authorities lined one side of the passage; the marines of the Monarch and Plymouth the other. On board the Monarch there was a general muster of the crew along the edge of the level deck from the gangway forward. The officers mustered on the quarter deck, near the pavilion where the coffin is to remain until the ship weighs anchor. When the train approached, at three o'clock, the Monarch displayed her ensign half-mast, and the American ensign abreast of the foretopmast crosstrees, the other ships in the harbor imitating her example. Minute guns were fired from the Duke of Wellington, in the midst of which the mourners, alighting from the train, were received by Admiral Hope, as chief of the dockyard. The coffin was removed from the funeral car and borne on the shoulders of twelve men up the gangway. In spite of the studied plainness of the ceremony and the personal discomfort of all present, these proceedings were felt to be solemn and touching. Marines and seamen from various ships were paraded at different points. The dead march was commenced by the dockyard band, as the procession moved forward, and the marines of both countries leaned on their arms, and the officers and men on board stood uncovered—a mark of respect paid also by the crowd on shore. A discharge of small arms from the bows of the flagship was added to the minute guns. The captain of the ship and chaplain, at the head of the gangway, received the procession, which consisted of the coffin, Mr. Motley and Mr. Peabody Russell, Mr. Reed, M. P., and Sir Curtis Lampson, Mr. Morgan and Mr. Sowerby, Captain Acomb, of the Plymouth, and a train of officers from both vessels. The coffin was placed on a bier in the center of the canopy, and the mourners and a few officers assembled within the black drapery.

[Then followed the address of Mr. Motley and the response of the commander of the Monarch, Captain Commerell, heretofore published in the COMMERCIAL.]

WHERE THE COFFIN RESTS ON SHIP BOARD.

The correspondent of the *News* says: "It is in the extreme stern of the ship and close to, indeed part of, the officers' cabins. The black cloth, white satin cords, festoons of black and white, immortelles, tall wax lights in huge silver candlesticks, four on either side of the bier, silver brackets with smaller candles around the chapel, and the monogram "G. P." freely interspersed, have been already described. The only recent addition is the American eagle, facing the entrance, in a device of silver, plainly showing the inscription, "*E Pluribus Unum.*" The chapel is separated from the rest of the ship at present merely by heavy folds of black curtain, and immediately without, as if keeping watch and ward, stands one of the immense pieces of ship artillery for which the Monarch is famous, and whose carriage and fixtures happen to be laid down at this particular place."

THE ECUMENICAL COUNCIL.

Discord in the Assembly—How the First Meeting was Broken Up.

[Rome (Dec. 14) Correspondence London Times.]

The truth about the first meeting with closed doors (that is, on the 10th) is coming out. It was a scene of the greatest confusion. I am now told that the minority was one hundred and thirty. It was the Archbishop of Temesvar, in Croatia, it is now said, who was making a Latin speech, protesting against the forms and arrangements as interfering with the independence of the Bishops, when the bell rang and he was called to order. Thereupon, it is added, the Primate of Hungary came to his rescue, and in his turn was called to order in a like manner. Upon this Dupanloup made a strong observation in good French and left the hall, with the Archbishop of Paris and a hundred others, in fact, breaking up the meeting. All the Bishops complain that they are powerless; that they have had no time to know what they are wanted to do; that they have only been allowed eight days to make one another's acquaintance; finally, that the Hall is intolerable. They are dying of cold, and they cannot hear one another. They say the present accommodation is utterly inadequate; that they require many more rooms, and those larger than what have been improvised in and about St. Peter's. I hear that some of them say the Council ought to have been held at the Lateran or Quirinal, where they might have had a whole palace for the work, and rooms for conversation and other business. They are now obliged to find opportunities for mutual information and conference where they can, and Cardinals, and others who happen to have palaces at their command, are holding nightly large reunions. Very late ones, too, I suspect, for the streets are getting noisy at midnight, more so than when I came. Thus the first meeting on the 10th ended with an abrupt adjournment; and I cannot doubt that of to-day has done so also. This is not very promising for the presumed object of the Council, which every day recedes further into the limbo of vain aspirations. If the dogma of infallibility is adopted, it is now said positively the French Concordat will be at once withdrawn, and Pius IX. will find that with a new position new relations also will have to be arranged. So strongly is this intention announced that the Pope's friends accuse France of dictating, and Frenchmen do not deny the imputation. The situation is described on both sides as *gravissima;* and nobody sees the way out of it, except by continual adjournments, till time itself may bring some sort of escape. But as for any conclusions being come to and proclaimed by January 6, that is pronounced impossible.

Position of the American Bishops.

ROME, December 15.

* * * The Papal authorities have housed the Bishops with careful and discriminating hospitality. Those who could not be absolutely trusted have been lodged with safe companions, in the proportion of one weak brother to half a dozen strong. In one palace, two or three known to want their faith confirmed, are in charge of ten stout believers. The Jesuits have had the manipulation of the flock, and have done it well. There is not one of them who has not his feelings sounded and reported upon daily; and the common study of the printed papers compels all to speak. In this way it will be ascertained what points can be pressed—supposing it desirable to press them—and what not. But the Pope will probably not propose at all what he would have to withdraw. The American Bishops, I hear it said, plead their difficulties at home. The Syllabus has excited a good deal of attention there, and has been announced as an attack upon civil society, putting everybody pledged to it in antagonism to his fellow citizens. At first sight it might seem that under a Constitution, founded on the right of private judgment and the will of the majority, there would be no great reason to fear an external claim to entire spiritual and social submission. But it is plain the Americans entertain a strong dislike to the kind of thing altogether, and that any maintainer of the Pope's infallibility and supreme authority in the chief affairs of life will often find himself at a disadvantage. So the American Bishop would rather be out of it. Indeed, they say they cannot help themselves; the new converts stipulate for their liberty. If this be the case in the United States, it cannot be otherwise in all the States of the Old World, where religion is at all a matter of controversy, and where there are such things as converts from one communion or one school to another. The objections to infallibility are said to take a great variety of forms, but that must be only a variety of language, expression, and circumstances. There is one master objection at the root of all objections, and that is the individuality and the self-consciousness which make every man, who thinks at all, think for himself by laws and rules of his own, and from his own point of view. The man who thinks is already on a throne, and he does not even vacate it when he has solemnly accepted the Pope for his lord paramount. He still holds it in that See.

MR. HENRY J. WINSER, formerly of the New York *Times*, and now occupying a consular position in Saxony, writes an interesting letter, in which he describes the favorable impressions made on the Prussian Court by the Burlingame Embassy. He says: "The Embassy, therefore, has been received in Prussia with as much warmth as has generally greeted it at all the Courts of Europe, and its objects have only to be properly presented by Mr. Burlingame to insure for it a hearty reception everywhere. The fact that an American is at the head of it disarms that jealousy which would be apparent among the rival nations of Europe if a native of any other country were its chief."

THE DAILY COMMERCIAL,

PUBLISHED BY
THE COMMERCIAL PRINTING COMPANY
OFFICE, 76 FIFTH AVENUE,
(OPPOSITE POSTOFFICE.)
C. D. BRIGHAM, - - - - - *Editor.*
R. D. THOMPSON, *Business Manager.*

TERMS OF THE DAILY:

Single Copy....5 Cents.
Delivered by Carrier (per week)....25 Cents.
Subscribers by Mail, (per year)....$10 00.

☞ Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

☞ Letters on Business, Subscriptions, &c., address
THE COMMERCIAL, PITTSBURGH.

THE EVENING HEARTHSTONE.

Gladly now we gather round it,
For the toiling day is done,
And the gray and solemn twilight
Follows down the golden sun;
Shadows lengthen on the pavement,
Stalk like giants through the gloom,
Wander past the dusky casement,
Creep around the fire-lit room.
Draw the curtains!—close the shutters!
Place the slippers by the fire!
Though the rude wind loudly mutters,
What care we for wind-sprite's ire?

What care we for outward seeming?
Fickle Fortune's frown or smile?
If around us Love is beaming—
Love can human ills beguile!
'Neath the cottage roof and palace,
From the peasant to the king,
All are quaffing from Life's chalice,
Bubbles that enchantment bring.
Grates are glowing—music flowing
From the lips we love the best;
Oh, the joy—the bliss—the knowing
There are hearts whereon to rest!

Hearts that throb with eager gladness—
Hearts that echo to our own—
While grim Care and haunting Sadness
Mingle ne'er in look or tone,
Care may tread the halls of Daylight—
Sadness haunt the midnight hour—
But the weird and witching Twilight
Brings the glowing Hearthstone's dower.
Altar of our holiest feelings!
Childhood's well-remembered shrine!
Spirit-yearnings—soul revealings,
Wreaths immortal round thee twine!

—*Grace Appleton.*

ANECDOTES OF WEBSTER.

Webster's abilities as a lawyer, Mr. Curtis informs us, became evident immediately upon his admission to the bar, and from the first he was pitted against some of the finest legal minds in the country, invariably impressing both bench and bar with his wonderful talent. His first encounter with Mr. Jeremiah Mason, of Portsmouth, will answer for an illustration of this fact, and the following account of it was given to Mr. Curtis by Mr. Mason himself:

"A man, who had previously held a respectable position in one of the counties where Mr. Webster then practiced, was indicted for forgery. Mr. Mason, as the leading counsel in New Hampshire, was sent for, on a special retainer, to defend him. 'I heard,' said Mr. Mason, 'that there was a young lawyer up there, who was reputed to be a wonderfully able fellow, and was said by the country people to be as black as the ace of spades, but I had never seen him. When they told me that he had prepared the evidence for this prosecution, I thought it well to be careful, especially as the trial was to be conducted by the attorney-general. But, when the trial came on, the attorney-general was ill, and the prosecutors asked that Webster should be allowed to conduct the case. I assented to this readily, thinking I ought to have an easy time of it; and we were introduced to each other. We went at it, and I soon found that I had no light work on my hands. He examined his witnesses and shaped his case with so much skill, that I had to exert every faculty I possessed. I got the man off, but it was as hard a day's work as I ever did in my life. There were other transactions behind this one which looked quite as awkward. When the verdict was announced, I went up to the dock, and whispered to the prisoner, as the sheriff let him out, to be off for Canada, and never to put himself within the reach of that young Webster again. From that time forth I never lost sight of Mr. Webster, and never had but one opinion of his powers.'"

Mr. Webster, as an advocate and as a statesman, appears to have had a dual identity, so different was his style, and yet he was equally successful in each. The anecdote just given shows the impression his earliest efforts made upon a great lawyer, and the following account will give evidence of his maturer power. It was related to Mr. Choate by Dr. Chauncey A. Goodrich, a professor in Yale College, was used by him in his eulogy upon Webster, before the students of Dartmouth College, July 27, 1853, and is now reproduced by Mr. Curtis. It is too long to be given in full, but a quotation from it will give the point. Mr. Webster had taken the great Dartmouth College case before the Supreme Court of the United States, and was about to make his argument in the small room, in which that court was then held, before one of the most cultivated, critical, and talented audiences in the land. Professor Goodrich went to hear it, expecting to listen to a dry, exhaustive, legal argument. He said that so clear, so convincing, so powerful was the argument, that the court was entranced, and Judge Story, pen in hand, fixed his eyes upon the speaker, and never made a note. Mr. Webster finished his argument, stood silent a moment, and then proceeded to make a direct address to the court, in the course of which he came to speak of his personal feelings in regard to the College, and here we quote Prof. Goodrich's report:

"'It is, sir, as I have said, a small college. And yet there are those who love it——' Here, the feelings which had thus far succeeded in keeping down, broke forth. His lips quivered; his firm cheeks trembled with emotion; his eyes were filled with tears, his voice choked, and he seemed struggling to the utmost, simply to gain that mastery over himself which might save him from an unmanly burst of feeling. I will not attempt to give you the few broken words of tenderness in which he went on to speak of his attachment to the College. The whole seemed to be mingled throughout with the recollections of father, mother, brother, and all the privations through which he had made his way into life. Every one saw that it was wholly unpremeditated, a pressure on his heart, which sought relief in words and tears. The court-room, during these two or three minutes, presented an extraordinary spectacle. Chief-Justice Marshall, with his tall and gaunt figure bent over, as if to catch the slightest whisper, the deep furrows of his cheek expanded with emotion, and his eyes suffused with tears; Mr. Justice Washington at his side, with his small, emaciated frame and countenance, more like marble than I ever saw on any other human being—leaning forward with an eager, troubled look; and the remainder of the court, at the two extremities, pressing as it were, toward a single point, while the audience below were wrapping themselves round in closer folds beneath the bench, to catch each look and every movement of the speaker's face. * * * * * * * *

He sat down. There was a death-like silence throughout the room for some moments; every one seemed to be slowly recovering himself, and coming gradually back to his ordinary range of thought and feeling."

HUNGARIA'S REVENGE.

In the chronicles of the Kings of Hungary occurs an account of a personal conflict between King Karl Robert, called the Magnificent, and one of his knights, which resulted in one of the most terrible instances of revenge on record. This knight was named Felician Zach, and after the death of Matthias Csak he had sworn fealty to Karl, becoming one of the most confidential of his friends and advisers. His daughter, the beautiful Clara, dwelt, as was the wont of the daughters of many of the nobility, at the court of the magnificent king, and it happened that the brother of the queen, Duke Casimir of Poland, while on a visit at Vissegrad, fell desperately in love with her. Deceiving her by a mock-marriage, which he persuaded her it was necessary should be clandestine, he only revealed her true position when on the point of deserting her to return to his own court, and Clara, overwhelmed with the disgrace of her position, complained bitterly to her father of the duke's treachery. Felician was furious at the insult offered to his house; and, finding that the violator of his daughter's honor had escaped him, he determined to revenge himself on the queen his sister, who, it appeared, had aided and abetted in the crime. He repaired to the palace, and, rushing frantically with his drawn sword into the room where the royal family were seated at dinner, he made straight for the queen. The king had risen, thinking his trusty friend had been seized with sudden madness, and, as he stood between Felician and his intended victim, he received a slight wound in the arm. The queen, anxious for the safety of her children, threw herself in front of them, and received a blow which cut off the four fingers of her right hand, on which Felician was seized, and literally cut to pieces by the servants.

The revenge that followed this outrage was fearful; no extenuation was allowed on account of the circumstances that had provoked it, and the whole family of Felician Zach was doomed to destruction. The fair Clara, the involuntary cause of the calamities that fell on her house, had reason to rue the "fatal gift of beauty" which had been bestowed upon her. She was seized by the emissaries of the king; her hands, ears, and nose, were cut off, and thus mutilated she was dragged, a public spectacle, through the town. Her sister perished by the hand of the hangman; her young brother was tied to the tail of a horse, which was then turned into the forest; her brother-in-law was starved to death in a dungeon, and the family property was confiscated, their descendants being excluded from holding any possessions for three generations. All this happened about the year 1330.

The Influence of the Weather on Sickness.

Dr. Ballard, *in his report* on the health of Islington, 1867, thus aphoristically states the influence of the weather on sickness: 1. That an increase of atmospheric temperature is normally associated with an increase of general sickness. 2. That a decrease of atmospheric temperature is normally associated with a diminution of general sickness. 3. That for the most part the increase or decrease of sickness is proportional in amount to the extent to which the atmospheric temperature rises or falls. 4. That it is an error to suppose (as is popularly held) that sudden changes in temperature are (as a rule) damaging to public health. A sudden change from cold to hot weather is indeed very damaging; but a sudden change from hot to cold is one of the most favorable circumstances that can occur when sickness is regarded broadly as respects a large population. 5. That, remarkable enough, these influences are most marked in the directions as I have mentioned in the colder season of the year, and more certain in the winter than in the summer. 6. That rises and falls of temperature are more certain and effectual in their special operation upon public health when at the same time the daily range of temperature is lessened, than they are when the daily range is at the same time increased; rises of temperature increasing sickness more certainly and markedly, and falls of temperature decreasing it more certainly and markedly. 7 That a fall of rain lessens sickness generally, sometimes immediately, sometimes after a short interval, and that as a rule, the reduction of general sickness is greater when the fall of rain is heavy than when it is light. 8. That drought, on the other hand, tends to augment general disease. 9. That wet weather in the summer season operates more certainly in improving public health than it does in the winter season.

Portents in Ireland.

A London letter says: "Matters in Ireland seem rapidly tending to another crisis. Mr. Gladstone's professedly conciliatory measure of last session, and others which he promises in the next, instead of soothing the agitation in that country, seem to have given it fresh impetus. It is not only the Fenians who are now giving trouble to the Government, but men of the higher and even the highest ranks in Irish society. The Duke of Abercorn, not long ago Viceroy of Ireland himself, has placed himself at the head of the discontented Protestants, and has publicly used language that in former times would have been accounted treasonable, and have cost the utterer his head. Another lord, who is also a clergyman, has publicly denounced Mr. Gladstone as an accomplice of the Fenians, and declared he ought to share their punishment. The natural and inevitable effect of the stand taken by the Duke of Abercorn and his followers must be to stir up sectional jealousy between the Northern and Southern Irish Provinces, and embitter the animosity of Church and of race already existing. In the meantime the Fenians and their sympathizers turn a deaf ear to all blandishments, and refuse to entertain any proposition from the Government so long as their national martyrs are retained in confinement.

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 1870.

PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL.

DAILY AND WEEKLY.

1870.

As a thorough newspaper, sparing neither labor nor expense to furnish the fullest and most reliable intelligence; as the fearless, consistent, and persistent opponent of corruption in office and advocate of Honesty, Economy, Retrenchment and Reform in public affairs; as the sworn foe of "Rings" and every description of dishonest combination,—just as ready to expose their practices in the Republican as Democratic party, and even more so, because it holds that a party that will cast out offenders of this description entitles itself to the confidence of the people—as an Independent Republican journal, the advocate of the rights and interests of the people,—THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL needs no new introduction to the reading public.

IT IS A PROGRESSIVE PAPER.

And keeps up in the march of improvement and the development of ideas. Thoroughly alive to everything that is valuable or interesting, it identifies itself at once and heartily with whatever seems calculated to improve mankind and elevate the standard of intelligence and morality. As a Republican journal of the strictest sect, it deals with political questions with an earnest wish to get at the truth and place only good and capable men in office.

IT IS A PEOPLE'S PAPER.

And relies on their support and good opinion rather than the favors of political leaders. Nor has it done so in vain. Its independent course—more especially in denouncing legislative corruption and exposing the practices of thieves in office—has made it the favorite of the masses and the fear of dishonest aspirants and debauched party leaders. Of the reputation it has earned in this respect it is sincerely proud; and it wishes no different standing in the field of journalism in this regard than a discriminating public promptly accord to it. To prove faithful to their confidence and good opinion will be its constant endeavor.

IT IS A LIVE PAPER.

And ranks with the leading journals which are thoroughly awake to all that is going on. Its News Department is always fresh and full. Its editorials are written with a purpose in view. Its Market Reports and Commercial News gatherings are meant to supply the most exacting demands of the business public.

IT IS A PROSPEROUS AND GROWING PAPER.

Having from the start gone ahead, outstripping older occupants of the field of journalism; and it has attained to a prosperity and come to exert an influence second to no paper in the State. That it has fairly won the rank of the first paper in Pennsylvania is the verdict of newspaper readers in general.

IT IS A PAPER OF INFLUENCE.

It being read more generally than any other Pittsburgh paper by the business, professional and thinking classes. It is always found where the latest and fullest news is sought, and an independent paper prized,—in Banking Houses, Counting Rooms and the Family Circle, where it is welcomed as a business and intellectual necessity, and where its influence is constant and increasing.

ITS PAST COURSE IS ITS BEST RECOMMENDATION.

And it is felt that there is no necessity for indulging in new professions or making fresh promises. It means, while adhering to its standard in politics and morals, to improve as it progresses, and omit nothing that will add to its strength or increase its usefulness.

THE NEXT YEAR.

THE COMMERCIAL enters on another year strong and hopeful, and with a deliberate purpose consistent with what has been said above. And it does not hesitate to ask the co-operation of all who approve of that purpose. No hesitation is felt in saying that it desires this support in increasing its circulation and enlarging the sphere of its usefulness. The season is at hand when Congress and the Legislature will be in session, and stirring events at both the National and State Capital will be transpiring. The measures of the splendid administration of General Grant will soon be before the country—embracing questions of the deepest interest to every reader and tax-payer. The State Legislature, too, will present matters of interest. Abroad, the signs are animating; and at home in the field of politics, popular movements relating to education and religious questions are appearing, of which no one should permit himself to be ignorant, and concerning which all that is essential to be known will be the aim of the COMMERCIAL to give.

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Address, THE COMMERCIAL,
Pittsburgh, Penna.

THE bill introduced in the State Senate Wednesday, reorganizing the Treasurer's office, is an important beginning in the right direction. We are not prepared to say precisely in what manner it should be accomplished, but that the people will be content with nothing less than a thorough reform, we are entirely certain. By looking to the people—not on this, but all other questions—the Legislature will never be at a loss about what course to pursue.

THE Record which the people want kept at Harrisburg is one that will show the Ayes and Nays of the representatives on the jobs; on every measure, in fact, involving an expenditure of the public money. Whoever will attend rigidly to calling the Ayes and Nays on everything that has a semblance of a job will earn and receive the thanks of the taxpayers. This is the record that is needed. It will save tens of thousands of dollars to the Treasury, and prove a valuable debt and credit account. Who will see that it is accurately kept?

WE thank Senator HOWARD, of Allegheny, for his prompt motion to cut off the *Record* job; and we thank the Senate for promptly sustaining his motion. The weak-kneed brethren on the Republican side should take courage from the example of Mr. HOWARD, and those who look only to the people and are not afraid to give effect to what they know is their fixed will. Let the House now promptly concur in the action of the Senate; and the Republicans, in the first hours of the session, will have disposed of the miserable *Record* of the jobbers and made a glorious one for themselves.

THERE should be no hesitation on the part of the supporters of Retrenchment and Reform in the Legislature about going to the work with alacrity and thoroughness. Something of the flavor of the act of striking at the roots of the tree of Extravagance and Corruption would be lost by hesitating. The *Record* job should be immediately disposed of. It is a costly nuisance—a mere invention to filch money from the treasury. Directly and indirectly, the annual cost is not less than one hundred thousand dollars. It is the ground work of the paster and folder extravagance. It is the source of the enormous postage account. Around it revolve a variety of other jobs and useless expenditures. The job should be cut up, root and branch. This much is expected by the people. About it there should be no hesitation. Quick and thorough work with all such inventions for robbing the treasury, should be the motto.

IN undertaking to suppress the circulation of the COMMERCIAL at Harrisburg, by buying up the supply and hindering its delivery at the Postoffice, the Treasury Ring there make a peculiar display of their spite and a significant exhibition not only of their malice, but the desperation to which they have been driven. Senator CAMERON, Chief of Ringmasters, is on hand in person, superintending operations, and to him, it is probable, this brilliant stroke is to be attributed. The fortunes of the Ring must be desperate indeed when it becomes necessary to summon this old, once expert, but played out lobbyist and Ringmaster to the capitol. His professions in favor of Economy, Retrenchment and Reform come curiously enough from one who, above all other men, has done most to corrupt legislation and debauch affairs in and about the capitol. A notable instance of the kind is recorded as having occurred in the history of another notable character which flourished long ago, whose representatives occasionally appear among men now. SIMON CAMERON professing honesty and a desire for reform! A majority of those congregated in Harrisburg know well what his life has been, from the Winnebago Agency to the present day. They know by what means he obtained his seat in the Senate; what odor surrounded him when he was compelled to resign from Mr. LINCOLN's Cabinet, and how outraged public sentiment found expression in resolutions in the House of Representatives. It is the height of impudence in Mr. CAMERON to ask men fresh from an honest constituency, with an unmistakable public sentiment for Economy, Retrenchment and Reform ringing in their ears, to follow him. What has SIMON CAMERON done to entitle him to be followed now by men sent to represent an honest public sentiment? What has he not done full of warning to those who value their good names, particularly at a juncture like this! Let Republican Representatives read again the indictment which Governor GEARY makes against Cameronism in his message, and then enlist under the banner of the chief of Ringmen if they think it best.

GOVERNOR GEARY'S MESSAGE.

We cannot to-day speak of the various subjects considered in Governor GEARY's message as we could wish. What will first arrest attention are the ponderous blows he deals against the Treasury Ring. Like a man thoroughly in earnest and sure of his ground, he utters his sentiments and urges his views without reserve, and in language so well chosen for clearness and force, that the meaning cannot be mistaken or the effect doubtful. So conspicuous for boldness and strength is this portion of Governor GEARY's message, that we reproduce it here, as follows:

"I beg, once more, to remind the *Legislature* that the salary of the State Treasurer should at least be equal to that of the Governor. It is only seventeen hundred dollars, a sum entirely insufficient to command the services of any responsible man, who is required to furnish a bond, with good and approved sureties, for eighty thousand dollars, and to run the risk of handling at least five or six millions of dollars per annum, without the unlawful use of the State funds, and subsidies from sources that dare not be revealed to the public, because they are positively prohibited by law, under penalties of no ordinary magnitude. Yet there are but few men who have held this office, however poor they may have been when they took charge of it, who have not become rich. There is certainly some advantage to be gained by the holding of the position of State Treasurer unknown to the public, but which readily accounts for the disgraceful scramble, and for the political and moral debauchery which the people of this State seem to be doomed annually to witness, in the election of that officer; and because of the disgrace it brings upon their representatives, the people hang their heads in indignation and shame. Then, in the name of the good people of Pennsylvania, I call upon the members of the Legislature, without distinction of party, to rise above the murkiness of the polluted atmosphere of the past, to the true dignity of manhood and exalted patriotism, and purify the election of Treasurer, as well as that of every other officer in this Commonwealth, and punish every one who tampers with the purity of elections, whatever may be his position or pretensions. And then every one who shall have performed his whole duty to sustain the true interests of the State, and maintain the high dignity of her character, may return unpolluted and with a clear conscience to his constituents, who will receive him with open arms, and with the joyful exclamation of 'well done, good and faithful servant.'"

Such testimony as this is overwhelming,—but it is no more than a fair embodiment of the known facts, the settled belief and fixed will of the people. The spirit displayed by the hero of Lookout Mountain in leading his troops to the assault which drove the enemy from what they deemed an impregnable position, is manifested in his brave and crushing denunciation of the political profligates so long intrenched at Harrisburg. Nor will he, in calling on the Legislature to support him in the great task of purification and reform, call in vain. The Legislature, the people, by every means of popular expression and support, will be at his back, and as on a hundred battle fields, he will win the victory. Right minded people will thank him for his brave stand. We especially thank him for it. It is right as well as courageous—right in manner, place and time.

The financial exhibit made in the message is especially gratifying, and reflects the highest credit on Governor GEARY's administration. The public debt has been reduced since January, 1867, the sum of four million eight hundred and sixty-nine thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight dollars and eighty-two cents. His recommendations and statements in regard to employing the unexpended balance for the reduction of the public debt are wise and instructive. The policy recommended is indisputably the only one which should be known to the State. The people have demanded it and the Legislature must grant it.

To the other topics discussed in the message we shall refer hereafter. It is clearly written and will compare favorably with any similar document in our history.

To the message is appended a record of pardons granted during the year, the reasons therefor and the names and signers to the petitions. The remarks of the Governor on the subject of pardons, the popular idea concerning the exercise of the prerogative by the Executive, and on the vicious practice of asking for its almost constant exercise, are extremely appropriate, and likely to exert a salutary influence.

THE LEGISLATURE.

The Legislature of Pennsylvania organized Tuesday by electing Senator STINSON Speaker of the Senate, and Hon. B. B. STRANG Speaker of the House. It was not till Mr. STRANG placed himself in sympathy in a marked degree with the pronounced sentiment in favor of Economy, Retrenchment and Reform, that his election became possible. Without abating anything of criticism on his course last winter, we are free to say that it is greatly to his credit, and was well calculated to pave the way to the Speakership that he had the sagacity to perceive and the candor to admit the force of public opinion concerning Rings and profligate legislation. It was these professions by Mr. STRANG that led supporters of Retrenchment and Reform to acquiesce in the propriety of his election. With a Speaker pledged against Rings and corrupt combinations, the friends of reform in the House will find no difficulty in carrying through measures demanded by the people. It is something to know that Mr. STRANG unhesitatingly pledges himself to this extent to co-operate in procuring measures of this description. We need not say that Mr. STRANG was not our choice; nevertheless we respect the judgment of undoubted reformers in going for him. Should their expectations in this regard be realized we shall be as prompt as any one to accord full credit to Mr. STRANG. We look confidently to the Republican members for the vigorous prosecution of the policy of Economy and Reform so earnestly desired by their constituents; and it is gratifying to know that they will to any extent have the co-operation of Mr. STRANG as Speaker.

In the selection of Mr. STINSON, the Senate have secured a prompt and capable presiding officer, and we believe, also, that in him the friends of reform secure an important advantage. We look with no little confidence to him to give an active support to those measures which in obedience to public opinion will come before the Legislature.

A GRACEFUL MONUMENT.

ALBERT B. DOD, of whom perhaps a majority of our readers have never heard, was for many years Professor of Mathematics and Architecture in the College of New Jersey, at Princeton. He died many years ago in the prime of his life, and left behind him no adequate memorial of his splendid intellectual powers. A few articles in a Review of rather limited circulation which have been collected and published in a volume, are all that remains to keep alive his name, and, though these papers show that Professor DOD possessed a mind of extraordinary range and ability, they convey no notion of the brilliant faculties which made their possessor so wonderful to his contemporaries. Few in number and generally written mainly to meet some controversial emergency in the religious denomination to which he belonged, these articles hardly confirm the current recollections of his acuteness, wit, learning, eloquence, &c. When he died Dr. CHARLES HODGE characterized him as "one of the greatest men New Jersey had ever produced." OGDEN HOFFMAN said of him, "Dod was the finest converser I ever met." The successive classes of students who received his instructions in the recitation and lecture room, regarded him with a degree of admiration which words could not express. Indeed, we suppose that no one could hear him talk for five minutes without receiving the impression that he was an extraordinary man. In the college with which he was connected, and among the posterity of those who were his pupils, his name will long live in traditions, more or less correct. And it is a great satisfaction to be able to state that the memory of this man of fine genius and admirable instructor, is to be revived and perpetuated in a manner, which, we trust, will inspire imitation. A Dod Professorship of Mathematics has been established in the institution of which he was so long an ornament, and has been endowed by his eldest daughter, now the widow of a millionaire. A graduate of the College referring in a New York paper, to this graceful filial tribute to a father's memory, states that when on "a summer evening of 1838 he called at the house of Professor DOD to be examined for admission into Princeton College, the eldest of his little girls was standing by his knee." Students of a somewhat later date remember the little girl somewhat more grown, leaning against the arm of her father's chair in the recitation room, and apparently interested in the exercises of the place. It was understood that the Professor intended to prove in the instance of his own daughters that women are as susceptible of mathematical discipline as the other sex. How far this purpose was ever carried out we know not—we may, however, confidently infer that this lady connects no unpleasant associations with the subject of mathematics.

THE latest sensation in New York is an astounding revelation by one King, who six months ago informed a District Attorney in Kentucky of the existence of a wide-spread plot, having its ramifications from one end of the Union to the other, and permeating all ranks and degrees of men therein, to ruin the credit of the Government, to force repudiation and insolvency and general bankruptcy, in fact, upon it. The plan adopted to carry out this terrible design of the conspirators was to flood the country with counterfeit money—counterfeit greenbacks—and national bank notes and spurious, worthless specie. The District Attorney forwarded all the several statements made to him by King, and besides, several documents, setting forth in full all the circumstances attending and surrounding the inception of the plot and the progress it had made up to the present time. These papers and all the information thus received at the Treasury Department were forwarded to Col. Whiteley, chief Treasury detective in New York, with instructions to read everything set forth carefully and to report his opinions and conclusions thereon. The conclusion that the shrewd Colonel came to was that the man who had made all these representations to the government must be insane; and so he reported, but the District Attorney still continued to forward fresh revelations, which are regarded at the Treasury Department as a hoax.

ON the heels of the announcement that the Cuban war has ended, we have the announcement that 17,000 men have landed at Havana since October. From every point of the insurrection the reports are alike; great activity is said to mark all the movements of the troops. The reports of the want of a commissariat are borne out by the experience of an English officer, who being desirous of witnessing the method of campaigning, accompanied a large force which left Havana, continuing with them a number of days, when, finding the hardships greater than he cared to endure, he returned. He states that no provision whatever was made for the sustenance of the officers and the troops, and after the first thirty-six hours they were foodless. The soldiers were compelled to dig up roots, of which they made a kind of a soup to preserve them from starvation. No enemy was met with in the four days, or any signs of any. The country was very difficult to traverse, and a guide was constantly necessary. On one day the column lost itself in the wood and was compelled to retrace its steps, following back its trail until it arrived at the encampment of the night previous.

A WESTERN journal relates an instance which occurred in the town of Abingdon Mo., where a party of boys, disguised by hideous masks and grotesque garments, called at the residence of an estimable lady, in that place. They entered noiselessly at the back door, and succeeded in frightening an infant almost into convulsions. The mother, hearing the horrified scream of her child, immediately hastened to its assistance. In hurrying to her child she suddenly encountered the masked figures and fell fainting to the floor. She was shortly afterward found by her friends, and proper remedies were administered, but her revival only witnessed the horrifying fact that she was hopelessly insane. Up to this writing no lucid intervals have been developed, and the woman is now a raving maniac.

The records of our mad houses present many similar instances, yet we have never heard of any steps being taken to impose a penalty upon the practical jokers who are responsible for the misery they entail.

THE Social Science Association is engaged upon an exhaustive enterprise, being no less than the printing of extremely cheap tracts to be circulated in great numbers among the people, embodying greatly needed instructions on sanitary subjects—ventilation, water closets, drainage, sexual morality, and so forth. Not satisfied with the herculean task of endeavoring to enlighten the mass upon these and kindred topics, the Association is also engaged in procuring, at the request of Mr. John Stuart Mill, the opinions of prominent men in this country, journalists and politicians, on the practical working of the ballot—Mr. MILL acting for a committee of gentlemen who foresee that this question will be one of the first to come up for discussion in the progress of political reform in Great Britain, has written a letter requesting the collection of the information—and a circular has been sent out which will draw out a very valuable expression of views and experiences on the subject.

IT is regarded as a favorable sign of the times and an augury of our future prosperity, that, European financiers are devoting their efforts to the formation of joint stock companies, employing as their most powerful argument the "dead certainty" of the constant and early appreciation of United States Government bonds. These men argue that the United States Government will apply every year to the reduction of the debt the excess of its revenue. The excess may be one hundred millions of dollars, or not more than fifty millions of dollar. If it is one hundred millions of dollars the debt will be paid in fifteen years; if it is fifty millions of dollars the debt will be paid in twenty-three years. In the period of time, therefore, between now and 1891, it is confidently counted that all United States bonds will have risen to full par value, and in the difference between that value and present rates the shrewd financiers perceive their profit.

IDA FLORENCE BURNHAM, four and a half years old, a pretty child, bright, quick to learn little tunes, and a universal pet, was stolen from Washington by a Doctor C. S. Manchester and his wife. The Doctor is described as a native of New England, is of medium size, dark complexion, dark, grayish, curly hair, dark penetrating eyes, dark full whiskers, straight nose, and not a very full face. He has a free tongue and a "taking" manner. He wore a dark overcoat, bluish coat and a jockey hat. Mrs. Manchester is described as a wild, nervous, volcanic little body, with dark short hair, dark eyes, dark complexion, and full round face. She has no children of her own, and took to the little girl with extravagant fondness. The parents have traveled through a number of cities in search of the lost child.

MR. ALFRED H. LOUIS, a barrister of Lincoln's Inn, London, and formerly proprietor and editor of the *London Spectator*, the paper which, throughout the whole course of the great rebellion, most faithfully, and staunchly, and enthusiastically adhered to the cause of freedom and the Union, has concluded to cast his fortunes with the Americans hereafter. Mr. Louis is well known as an able political writer, was educated at Cambridge, and in his varied career as lawyer, journalist, traveler and politician has mingled with the foremost men of his day. By and by, we will have a goodly collection of naturalized first-class Englishmen among us, claiming a thorough knowledge of everything in the shape of authority in political economy, science and international law.

DISCUSSING the prospects of the new year, the New York *Times* says: "The year 1869 was one of average prosperity in all departments of trade, and if profits have not been so large it is owing to the fact that merchants and dealers have not brought down their expenses in proportion to the fall in gold and prices. Rent, for instance, is very high, and unavoidable charges generally press heavily upon all classes of business men." The experience of the merchants of New York is similar to that of our own. The item of rent is, perhaps, the greatest cause for complaint in this vicinity. Rents of business houses, public halls, and dwelling houses are out of all proportion.

THE other day Commissioner Delano paid the Kentucky distillers the compliment of saying that he had found more gentlemen among them, more willingness to obey the law, and that they had given the department less trouble than the same class in any other State. He took occasion to say at the same time that the department could see many reasons why more time in bond should be given on such spirits as are made in Kentucky, and require age to impart their market value. Mr. Delano forgets that time is rarely taken into consideration in Kentucky in the matter of disposing of whisky. No matter how much time the department gives, the chances are that the consumers won't avail themselves of it.

MR. MCHENRY, agent of the English holders of Erie securities, is preparing to organize arrangements for bringing the Erie princes to book. Enough is known to justify the belief that a fight with all the English doggedness will be aroused. If so, the bull dog character of the English for fighting may fix Messrs. Fisk and Gould, the Erie road, Opera House and all so that they will be left sticking in the mud, unless some fine morning, before this part of the conflict is reached, the Erie princes should take the "Excelsior" line and "go up in a balloon."

TORONTO has just had a mysterious case of murder. The Coroner's jury returned a verdict that deceased came to his death from injuries received by some blunt instrument having penetrated the roof of his mouth and passed through a portion of the brains, but how or by whom inflicted there was no evidence to show.—*Exchange.*

Very little makes a mystery in Canada then. More deaths occur in this country from the introduction of blunt instruments, in the shape of bottle-necks, into people's mouths, "which penetrate to the brain," than from any other cause.

SOME three weeks ago, the Governor of Jamaica announced the disestablishment of the Jamaica Church, adding that the Secretary of State for the Colonies had decided that no measures should be introduced in the Legislature which would confer rights or privileges on the Church of England not equally enjoyed by all other denominations.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:

GENTLEMEN: From the days of William Penn, the great and pious founder of our Commonwealth, it has been the universal custom of my predecessors, when making their annual communications to the General Assembly, to acknowledge their gratitude to, and dependence upon the Great Lawgiver of the Universe. In imitation of their noble example, let us earnestly invoke His blessing and guidance in our efforts to perform the great work of legislation now before us, in such manner as to meet His approbation, as well as that of our common constituents.

In transmitting to you the seventy-ninth annual message since the organization of the present State government, it affords me the highest gratification to congratulate you and our fellow-citizens generally on their enjoying, to an unusual degree, the blessings of health and unstinted prosperity; and that our principles and institutions—the pride and boast of every true hearted patriot—although tried again in the crucible of a heated political contest, the heavings of popular passion, and the collision of parties, from which we have just emerged, remain unimpaired and vital in every part.

Under such auspicious circumstances you have assembled, for the purpose of discharging the important duties, and assuming the special responsibilities which devolve upon you. It is extremely difficult, even with the greatest caution in your deliberations, to enact laws that will fully meet the expectations and approbation of all the people; but much of this difficulty may be overcome by avoiding legislation for personal and special interests, and not being unmindful of the magnitude of the interests of the State, and of its rapidly advancing population, wealth and influence to destinies beyond the reach of human vision. A nobler heritage was never given to man than we possess; geographically and politically of the greatest importance; an area of more than forty-four thousand square miles; diversified with mountains, valleys, plains, rivers; mountains covered with majestic forests of valuable timber of almost every variety; plains dotted with comfortable homesteads, and presenting well cultivated farms and luxuriant fields marked by the advancement of agriculture—the parent, supporter and stimulator of every species of industry, exchange and commerce; hills and valleys with teeming mines of all the varieties of coal, iron, oil, salt and other minerals, with farmers, manufacturers, mechanics, wool growers, coal and iron miners, oil producers, and merchants full of activity and confidence; with thousands of miles of railroads and canals to transfer the vast products to market, and accommodate the travel of four millions of happy and prosperous people. Nor should we be forgetful of education in all its branches, of the public charities, prisons, reformatories, the collection of properly imposed taxes, the speedy reduction of the State debt, the preservation of order, and the more certain protection of life, business and property. All these interests and perhaps others of equal importance, demand legislation of the most enlightened, liberal and comprehensive character.

In conformity to the requirements of the Constitution, I proceed to invite your attention to such measures as are deemed necessary for your consideration, and to assure you of my willingness to share with you the anxieties and responsibilities of all legislation calculated to advance the prosperity of the people and the best interests of the Commonwealth.

FINANCES.

From the reports of the Auditor General and State Treasurer, the following statement has been carefully prepared, and exhibits the receipts and disbursements for the fiscal year ending November 30, 1869:

Receipts.

Balance in Treasury, November 30, 1868		$1,012,925 37
Ordinary receipts during the fiscal year ending November 30, 1869		5,241,711 28
Total in Treasury during year ending November 30, 1869		6,254,636 65

Disbursements.

Ordinary expenses paid during the year ending November 30, 1869	$2,485,114 37	
Loans, &c., redeemed at Treasury	109,644 09	
Loans redeemed by the Commissioner of the Sinking Fund	362,762 09	
Interest paid at Treasury	170,065 74	
Interest paid by Commissioners of Sinking Fund	1,725,987 67	
		$4,853,774 16
Balance in Treasury, November 30, 1869		1,400,862 49

It will be observed from the above, that part of the loans and part of the interest are paid at the Treasury, and part of both by the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund. This produces a complication of accounts; which, in order to avoid, and to simplify the financial statement, I recommend that authority be given by law to charge the Commissioners with the whole amount of the State debt, and also with all the money applicable to the payment thereof, and that they alone be credited with all payments on both principal and interest of the State debt.

PUBLIC DEBT.

The following is a statement showing the nature of the indebtedness of the Commonwealth, on November 30, 1869:

Funded debt, viz:		
6 per cent. loans	$25,311,180 00	
5 per cent. loans	7,277,384 38	
4½ per cent. loans	112,000 00	
		$32,700,564 38
Unfunded debt, viz:		
Relief notes in circulation	$96,397 00	
Interest certificates outstanding	13,086 52	
Interest certificates unclaimed	4,448 38	
Domestic creditors' certificates	44 67	
		113,976 57
Amount of public debt November 30, 1869		32,814,540 95
The public debt on November 30, 1868, was		$33,286,947 13
Deduct amount redeemed at the Treasury, during the year ending November 30, 1869, viz:		
5 per cent. loans	$472,387 18	
Relief notes cancelled	19 00	
		472,406 18
Public debt November 30, 1869, as above		32,814,540 95

REDUCTION OF THE PUBLIC DEBT.

At the commencement of the present administration in January, 1867, the total outstanding indebtedness of the State was thirty-seven million, seven hundred and four thousand, four hundred and nine dollars and seventy-seven cents. Since then, and up to November 30, 1869, the sum of four million, eight hundred and eighty-nine thousand, eight hundred and sixty-eight dollars and eighty-two cents have been paid, and at five per cent, the sum of $244,493 41, in interest, is annually saved to the Commonwealth. Consequently, the total amount of indebtedness of the Commonwealth on November 30, 1869, was thirty-two million, eight hundred and fourteen thousand, five hundred and forty dollars and ninety-five cents.

The reduction during the year ending November 30, 1869, amounts to four hundred and seventy-two thousand, four hundred and six dollars and eighteen cents.

ASSETS IN SINKING FUND.

The assets remaining in the Sinking Fund are as follows, viz: Bonds of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, six million, three hundred thousand dollars. Agreeably to an act dated March 30th, 1869, the Sinking Fund Commissioners delivered all the obligations of the Sunbury and Erie Railroad Company, being third mortgage bonds, to the Allegheny Valley Railroad Company, and received therefor thirty-five second mortgage bonds of one hundred thousand dollars each, making in all three million, five hundred thousand dollars, executed by the said Allegheny Valley Railroad Company, and guaranteed by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, the Northern Central Railroad Company and the Philadelphia and Erie Railroad Company, payable to the Commonwealth as follows, viz:

The principal of one of said bonds ($100,000) shall be payable each and every year, beginning January 1, 1875, and so continuing annually thereafter until the said sum of three million five hundred thousand dollars shall be paid, with interest thereon from January 1, 1872.

The citizens of Pennsylvania have always borne taxation not only patiently but cheerfully, and they are still as willing as ever to contribute to the payment of all the obligations resting upon the State; but they expect their public servants who are intrusted with the management of their affairs to act upon the most prudent and economical basis. In a word, they demand reform in the management of the financial affairs of the State, and, as far as possible, the retrenchment of all unnecessary expenditures.

On the 29th of January last, replying to a resolution of the Senate, I said:

"I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, through the Clerk of your Honorable body, a copy of the following resolution, passed on the 12th inst., to wit:

"*Resolved*, That the Governor be requested to submit some plan to the Senate to secure the State from loss by the accumulation of large amounts of surplus funds in the Treasury.

"In reply, I beg leave to direct your attention to my message of January 8th, 1868, in which I say, 'the balance now in the Treasury might be rendered productive by being invested in the bonds of the State, bearing six per cent. interest;' and to the message of January 6th, 1869, where I remark, 'whenever there may be surplus funds in the Treasury, they can with safety and benefit to the State, be employed in the purchase of its outstanding bonds, and in saving the interest on them which would accumulate prior to their maturity.'"

Since making these suggestions, and maturely deliberating upon the subject, I have seen no reason to change my mind in relation thereto; and now submit the same plan, more specifically set forth, based upon the following statement of the loans of the Commonwealth, viz:

Am't of over due loans, including bank charter loans and relief notes unredeemed	$ 369,482 25
Am't payable in 1870, interest 5 per cent	1,483,815 65
Am't payable in 1871, interest 6 per cent	2,839,750 00
Am't payable in 1872, interest 6 per cent	4,917,150 00
Am't payable in 1872, interest 5 per cent	92,850 00
Am't payable in 1877, interest 6 per cent	7,959,800 00
Am't payable in 1877, interest 5 per cent	3,914,450 00
Am't payable in 1878, interest 5 per cent	321,000 00
Am't payable in 1879, interest 6 per cent	453,000 00
Am't payable in 1882, interest 6 per cent	9,273,050 00
Am't payable in 1882, interest 5 per cent	1,185,950 00
Am't payable in 1882, interest 4½ per cent	112,000 00
Amount of loans	$32,810,047 90

To the liquidation of these loans the surplus funds in the Treasury could, with great propriety, be applied. This indebtedness is held in bonds bearing interest; and it will readily be perceived that this interest will be saved to the State upon whatever amount of these bonds may be redeemed, and the State be saved from all risks of loss by the accumulation of large amounts of surplus funds in the Treasury.

A few illustrations will show the beneficial workings of this plan. At the termination of the fiscal year ending November 30, 1868, there was an unexpended balance in the Treasury of $1,012,915 37. If the suggestions heretofore made had been carried out, by the investment of one million dollars, at that time, in the five per cent. bonds that will fall due July 1, 1870, and which I am credibly informed could then have been purchased at something less than their par value, the interest on the same, from November 30, 1868, to July 1, 1869, would be seventy-nine thousand, one hundred and sixty-seven dollars and sixty-seven cents, which has been lost to the State. Again, on the 30th of November, 1869, there was in the Treasury an unexpended balance of $1,400,862 49. If one million, four hundred thousand dollars of this sum had been invested in the same kind of bonds, at par, on the 1st day of December, 1869, the interest for the seven remaining months, ending July 1, 1870, would be $40,833 34, but which, in consequence of non-conformity to this plan, will be lost to the Commonwealth. I cannot reiterate too strongly my recommendations on this subject, and would, therefore, recommend that a law be passed making it the duty of the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund to invest all surplus funds as rapidly as they accrue in the Treasury, in the purchase of the bonds of the Commonwealth next falling due.

I beg, once more, to remind the Legislature that the salary of the State Treasurer should at least be equal to that of the Governor. It is only seventeen hundred dollars, a sum entirely insufficient to command the services of any responsible man, who is required to furnish a bond with good and approved sureties, for eighty thousand dollars, and to run the risk of handling at least five or six million of dollars per annum, without the unlawful use of State funds, and subsidies from sources that dare not be revealed to the public, because they are positively prohibited by law, under penalties of no ordinary magnitude. Yet there are but few men who have held this office, however poor they may have been when they took charge of it, who have not become rich. There is certainly some advantage to be gained by the holding of the position of State Treasurer, unknown to the public, but which readily accounts for the disgraceful scramble, and for the political and moral debauchery which the people of this State seem to be doomed annually to witness, in the election of that officer; and because of the disgrace it brings upon their representatives, the people hang their heads in indignation and shame. Then, in the name of the good people of Pennsylvania, I call upon the members of the Legislature, without distinction of party, to rise above the murkyness of the polluted atmosphere of the past, to the true dignity of manhood and exalted patriotism, and purify the election of Treasurer as well as that of every officer within this Commonwealth, and punish every one who tampers with the purity of elections. And then every one who shall have performed his whole duty to sustain the true interests of the State and to maintain the high dignity of her character, may return unpolluted and with a clear conscience to his constituents who will receive him with open arms, and with the joyful exclamation of "well done, good and faithful servant."

Liberal appropriations are made annually to our penitentiaries, lunatic asylums, and other charitable and beneficial institutions, without requiring from those who receive and disburse the money any satisfactory evidence that it has been faithfully applied to the objects intended. All officers of the State who receive public moneys, not excepting the Governor, are required by law and usage to settle their accounts, on proper vouchers, in the Auditor General's office. This is right; and there is no good reason why the same accountability should not be enforced against all those who receive annually such large sums of money from the bounty of the Commonwealth. I, therefore, recommend that a law be passed requiring all persons who receive and disburse State appropriations, to take proper vouchers for all moneys so expended by them, and to make quarterly settlements of the same in the Auditor General's office. This is important, not only to protect the interests of the State, but also the good name of those who receive and disburse the money, and of the members of the Legislature through whose influence the appropriations are represented to be procured.

For many years the general appropriation bills have been signed on the day of the adjournment of the Legislature, and I here repeat the suggestions of last year on this subject. "The Governor has been forced either to sign the bills without proper investigation, notwithstanding any objections he may have; suspend the means to defray the operations of the government for the ensuing year; or call an extra session of the Legislature. It is therefore earnestly desired that the appropriation bill be taken up, discussed and passed at a sufficiently early period during the session to enable the Governor to give it that thorough examination its importance demands."

COMMON SCHOOLS.

The peculiar interest which is always manifested by the people in the subject of education, is an inducement to lay before you, more at length than would otherwise be done, the principal statistics of the system drawn from the report of the Superintendent of Common Schools.

There are within the State 1,971 school districts; 13,936 schools; 2,445 graded schools; 12,900 school directors; 76 superintendents; 17,142 teachers; 815,753 pupils. The average cost of tuition for each pupil is ninety-seven cents per month. The whole cost of tuition for the year is $3,500,704 26. Total cost including expenditures of all kinds during the year, $6,986,148 92. Estimated value of school property $14,045,632.

Notwithstanding the fact that our school law was made general in the year 1848, it is remarkable that there still remain five districts within the State which have not yet conformed thereto. Hopes are entertained that four of these will soon accept the conditions of the law, and the remaining one, known as the Harmony district, under the control of the "Economites," having a good school of its own, will probably not adopt the public school system so long as the present organization of that society exists. It is, therefore, a subject worthy of hearty congratulation that our school system has been so universally adopted by the voluntary consent and general acquiescence of the people.

As important auxiliaries to our common schools, the Normal schools are entitled to assume the front rank. Their flourishing condition may be understood by the following statistics: The whole number of students that have attended the four Normal schools is 10,237, of whom 321 have graduated. During the past year there were in these institutions 76 teachers and 4,178 students. Since my last annual communication, a State Normal School has been fully established and recognized at Bloomsburg, Columbia county. Its buildings are of the most finished and substantial character, and it commences its career under the most auspicious circumstances. Another is now in a state of preparation at California, Washington county, and will probably be completed during the current year.

Your attention is again invited to the fact that there are about seventy-five thousand children in the State that do not attend schools of any description, and who are permitted to grow up in ignorance and without employment, and, in many instances, from lack of industrial and educational training become not only the votaries of vice, but a prolific source from which the inmates of our prisons and penitentiaries are supplied.

The number of children throughout the State attending private schools, is estimated at eighty-five thousand.

The aggregate of the educational condition of the children of the Commonwealth, may be thus stated:

Attending the public schools	815,753
Attending private schools	85,000
Not attending schools of any kind	75,000
Whole number of children	975,753

The subject of non-attendance by so large a portion of children is specially and most earnest commended to your consideration. It is true economy on the part of the State, if possible, to save these children from ignorance, vagrancy and crime. To neglect them would be inexcusable, if not criminal. Doubtless in your assembled wisdom you will be able to devise some effectual mode by which this evil can be remedied.

Many of the recommendations contained in the report of the Superintendent are of the utmost importance, and eminently deserving of serious attention and legislative action. The facts above set forth illustrate most forcibly the practical value of our most admirable common school system, and bear testimony that cannot be misunderstood, to the wisdom and liberality by which it has been conceived and so successfully carried into effect.

SOLDIERS' ORPHANS' SCHOOL.

Attention is invited to the report of the Superintendent of the Soldiers' Orphans' Schools, for the year ending May 31, 1869, in which is exhibited their condition, circumstances and expenditures.

The whole number of children admitted into these schools from their origin to the 31st day of May, 1869, is four thousand, five hundred and nine; of whom three hundred and seven have been discharged on order, five hundred and eighteen on age, and fifty-three have died; making a total of eight hundred and seventy-eight, which left three thousand, six hundred and thirty-one in the schools at the end of the year. Up to May 31, 1869, the number of discharges from the schools have exceeded former estimates by one hundred and seventy-five. The number of applications for admission on file and not acted on, was seven hundred and one; some from every county in the State except six.

The sanitary condition of the children in these schools has been remarkably good. And from the foregoing statement it appears that during the four years in which they have been in operation, the whole number of deaths has been less than one-third of one per cent. per annum.

The entire cost for maintenance, education, clothing and general expenses, for the year ending May 31, 1869, differs but little from the original estimate of the Superintendent, and

Amounts to		$500,971 62
To pay which there was an unexpended balance of	$ 6,004 74	
Appropriated April 11, 1868	400,000 00	
Appropriated March 13, 1869	50,000 00	
		456,004 74
Balance unprovided for		$ 44,966 88

For which sum there should be a special appropriation without delay, to meet the pressing wants of the teachers of the different institutions, who have been already compelled to await its payment for more than seven months.

In his last annual report, the Superintendent estimated the expenses for the current year terminating May 31, 1870, at $494,700. The sum appropriated for that year, by act of April 16, 1869, was $450,000. As the Superintendent reports the expenses will not materially vary from his estimate, there will therefore be a deficit of $44,700 for the current year, to be provided for during the present session.

For the maintenance of these schools during the year ending May 31, 1871, it is estimated that $534,500 will be required, Which sum I recommend to be appropriated, with the positive understanding that the expenditures shall not exceed that amount.

We are admonished by the rapid expansion of the system, and by the constantly increasing desire to obtain admission into these schools, that some definite limit should be determined upon by law. It is therefore recommended that the indigent children of Pennsylvania soldiers, who served in Pennsylvania regiments, and who died prior to January 1, 1866, from wounds received or disease contracted in the service of the United States during the late war, shall be hereafter admitted, and none others.

With unsparing patience, well considered measures, and earnestness of purpose, many defects have been eradicated, and the schools have been advanced to a more perfect and efficient system than that by which they were at first characterized, and elevated to a condition not second to any similar institutions in the country. This humane and philanthropic service is being performed by intelligent officers and faithful teachers, which will be more fully shown by their reports, communicated for the information of the Legislature.

The establishment of these institutions, where the destitute orphan children of the soldiers who lost their lives in the suppression of the late rebellion, are fed, clothed and educated at the public expense, continues to command the cordial support, approval and encouragement of our citizens, and tends to elevate, everywhere, the reputation of Pennsylvania, (the first State to establish such schools,) to the highest degree, for her justice, patriotism and philanthropy.

Most heartily have the people indorsed the past action of their representatives in relation to these schools, and there exists not a single doubt but that they will most cordially approve all necessary appropriations for the continuance of the support, education and guardianship of these adopted children of the Commonwealth. To the honor, State pride and humanity of the Legislature is confided the guarding and maintaining of these sacred interests, and in the faithful discharge of this noble duty, you shal receive from me a special and zealous concurrence.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

The establishment of this college was undoubtedly intended as a progressive movement, and under the impression that it would contribute much to the easy acquisition of a combined knowledge of agriculture, science, and literature, and to promote the practical education of the industrial classes in the several pursuits of life. It has been fostered by the most liberal legislation, and is endowed with the sum of $381,500, invested in United States and Pennsylvania bonds, yielding an aggregate interest this year of $25,551 90, which has been paid to the trustees of the institution. Thus far the most satisfactory results from the workings of the college have not been realized. But it is now under the direction of a president and six learned professors. It receives for its pupils only males over the age of fifteen years, qualified for admission by a good common school education. There are in it at present forty-five students, with a fair prospect of a considerable increase in number. Tuition, board and the ordinary necessaries of life, are there furnished at a less rate than is generally demanded for boarding alone, thus affording an extraordinary opportunity to the youth of the country to acquire an accomplished education with comparatively small expenditures. Under these circumstances the college deserves the indulgent sympathy and support of the people.

Three experimental farms are connected with the college, purchased at an aggregate cost of $43,886 50. One is located at the college, one in Indiana county, and one in Chester county. Operations have commenced upon them under the prescribed programme of a series of experiments with promises of complete success; the results of which are to be reported annually to the Legislature by the Professor of Agriculture. It is confidently expected that the record of these experimental results will prove highly interesting, and greatly beneficial to the community.

MILITARY.

The military department is one of great importance to the honorable history of the Commonwealth, and to that of her citizens individually. It is the custodian of all the military records of the State, embracing that of every officer and private soldier, and the history of every military transaction performed by the State for the suppression of the rebellion. It has also in its custody all the regimental, State and national flags borne by our soldiers, and many trophies of war won by their valor on the field. All of which should be systematically and carefully preserved and perpetuated.

During the last three years all the staff officers rendered necessary by the war, and the different offices established for the convenience of the soldiers, have been discontinued, and the duties performed by them, as well as the official books and papers, have been transferred to the Adjutant General's department. He is, therefore, the only military officer remaining, to whom recourse is constantly had for statistics and information, not only by the soldiers, and their relatives and attorneys, but by other States and by the War Department at Washington. All these circumstances, connected with the present flourishing condition of the volunteer militia in the State, induce me to request the continuance of legislative favor for the Adjutant General's department, and that it may be generously supplied with such appropriations as have been requested by the Adjutant General for that office.

An unusual martial activity prevails throughout the State, but more particularly in Philadelphia. The encouragement which has been afforded to the uniformed militia has been responded to with alacrity, and is exhibited as follows: In 1866, there were eight volunteer companies; in 1867, thirty-eight; in 1868, sixty-seven, and in 1869, one hundred and eighty-four. No less than one hundred and seven companies were organized during the year ending November 30, 1869, of which fifty-six are in Philadelphia, and fifty-one in other parts of the State.

This is a small but efficient and well-equipped force, which, in case of riot, rebellion or other public danger would be ready at once to imperil itself for the enforcement of the laws and the protection of the lives and property of the citizens. It is, therefore, desirable that the Legislature should give the volunteers such practical aid as would, in some degree, compensate them for the time and money expended to maintain their organizations, in which the people are as much interested as the volunteers themselves.

The report of the Adjutant General will be found to be a very interesting document, containing much valuable information and many important suggestions. A careful perusal of its contents, and such action thereon, as seems to be demanded by their importance, is recommended. Gen. D. B. McCreary has been elected to membership in one of your honorable bodies, and with his last report he closed his career as Adjutant General. In losing his valuable services from a position he has so ably filled for more than two years, the hope is indulged that the department will gain an intelligent and devoted friend, and an able and efficient advocate in the halls of legislation.

MILITARY HISTORY.

The report of the State Historian is deserving of your careful attention. In it you will find a detailed account of the operations of his department from its commencement to the present time. The work entrusted to his care is one of no ordinary character and responsibility, requiring talents of a high order, patient industry, careful research, and unbiased judgment. The labor to be performed is immense, and can only be properly appreciated by those fully acquainted with its magnitude. It embraces a faithful account of all the organizations of Pennsylvania troops during the war of the rebellion; the collection and adjustment, in a comprehensive form, of each military organization, and an unprejudiced description of all military transactions of importance, so far as the volunteers of this State are concerned, in the camp and in the field, throughout the most terrific conflict of arms that has ever occurred in the history of the world. The propriety of such a work must be apparent to every intelligent citizen of the Commonwealth. Certainly it is due to the citizen soldiers, who offered their lives in the defense of their country, that their names should, at least, receive a place in the archives of the State, toward whose honor and glory their gallant deeds have so largely contributed.

The work of the Historian, when completed, will embrace four large octavo volumes, in which the name of every Pennsylvania volunteer will have its appropriate place. Two of these volumes are already completed, in a manner highly creditable to the Commonwealth. The third is rapidly progressing, and with a generous appropriation on the part of your honorable body the entire history will be executed, if not before, soon after the close of the present year. Most other States are publishing histories similar to this, and it is due to the importance of the subject, and to the credit of the State, that Pennsylvania should not be behind in this patriotic undertaking.

HOME FOR DISABLED SOLDIERS.

There is, probably, no State in the American Union that has contributed more liberally toward the support of charitable and benevolent institutions than that of Pennsylvania. The appropriations annually made for the benefit of the soldiers' orphans' schools, asylums for the deaf and dumb, blind and insane, and many similar worthy establishments in which the poor, helpless and otherwise friendless are cared and provided for, reflect great credit upon the Legislatures who have donated the requisite means for their support. But there is one other institution needed, and the claims for which are more strongly urged by every principle of humanity and patriotism, than any other now in existence, which has not yet received the attention its vast importance imperatively demands. This is a home for the soldiers who have "borne the battle" in defense of the honor, integrity and perpetuity of the American Union. No men living have as powerful claims upon the generosity and nurturing care of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as those who, upon the battlefield, fought to protect it against threatened devastation and destruction, and who in this patriotic service endangered their lives, sacrificed their health, lost their limbs, and became enfeebled and disabled for life. And yet we daily see these men, (and who does not blush to see them?) to whom we owe the preservation of our government, the homes we enjoy, and almost everything we possess, hobbling about our streets upon crutches, with missing limbs, and otherwise so enfeebled as to be entirely unfitted for any remunerative employment, begging their bread from door to door, or sitting upon the corners of the streets turning an organ for the few pennies the charitable passer-by may feel disposed to bestow. Every one of these helpless men, whose patriotic devotion to his country has brought him to this deplorable condition, is a burning reproach to the State for whose welfare he has met the most serious and lamentable of all misfortunes. All of them appeal, by their wounds and destitution, to the people of the Commonwealth for that care which, in such contingencies, was promised the soldier of the Union, his widow, and his orphan children. It is time that all such promises should be redeemed. The wounded and helpless soldiers have a claim upon the State which should not, and cannot be ignored. And I do earnestly recommend in their name, and in their behalf, that measures be taken by your honorable body to establish for them a home where they shall be amply provided with the necessary comforts of life, and no longer be compelled to be pensioners upon the scanty charity of the world. This is a debt the State absolutely owes, and no time should be lost in its honorable liquidation.

INSURANCE DEPARTMENT.

In two former communications your attention was called to the importance of establishing in the State an insurance department similar to those existing in other States. But the Legislature has thus far failed to give the subject that consideration which interests of such magnitude to the people seem to demand. Insurance departments in some of the States are regarded of paramount importance, as they effectually guard the interests of the insured, and through their healthy influence frauds and spurious companies, so common in Pennsylvania, are rendered almost impossible. The greatest benefits would certainly accrue both to the companies and policy holders, as has already been demonstrated in the States of New York and Massachusetts, where the subject of insurance has received the most careful study and attention, and been reduced to a science which commands the approbation and confidence of all who seek its protection. The necessity for such a department, with full powers to organize and examine all insurance companies, is sanctioned by the wisdom of experience. And as I have heretofore remarked, the result of the protection thus afforded, is, that while foreign companies do immense business in this State, so little confidence is had in those of Pennsylvania that their business is almost entirely confined within the State limits; and even here foreign companies maintain an ascendency. To this same defect is attributable the operations of the number of worthless companies that have suddenly sprung into existence without any solid basis, and as suddenly expired to the injury of those whose confidence they obtained, and to the dishonor of the Commonwealth.

In view of these facts, I earnestly repeat the recommendation made to the Legislature at its last session, that an insurance department be established, and a superintendent appointed by law, who shall have supervision and control over all insurance companies allowed to transact business within the State. The community is deeply interested in this matter, and demands legislative protection.

Our laws in relation to life insurance companies are defective and need revision and correction. Without the protection referred to these laws bear unequally upon our own and foreign companies. The latter, being protected by legislative enactment, are enabled to transact an immense amount of business within the limits of the Commonwealth, whilst our companies, having no such protection, can do but little in other States. The consequence is, that foreign companies can readily afford to pay a license of *five hundred dollars* to conduct their extensive operations in Pennsylvania, whilst our companies would be sorely oppressed by the imposition of the same license tax in States where their operations are exceedingly limited. And yet these other States have retaliated upon our license law, by adopting its provisions and demanding from our companies the same amount of license in each State that we demand of their companies in ours. This is not only oppressive to our own neglected companies, but it fails to furnish a just and equitable revenue from the various companies for the amount of business transacted. The tax should be made to bear equally upon all companies, whether home or foreign, and be adjusted proportionately to the extent of their several operations. This arrangement would be just to all—oppressive to none. The abolishment, therefore, of the license law, and the substitution in its place of a reasonable and equitable tax, would meet the approbation of all companies, in favor of equal and exact justice, whether belonging to this or any other State. At the same time it would insure a large income to the Treasury. For instance, there are *thirty-seven* life insurance companies from other States doing business in Pennsylvania, who each pay a license of five hundred dollars, making the sum of eighteen thousand and five hundred dollars. Not one of these companies would object to paying an equal tax of say one-half of one per cent. upon the amount of their business. This, in the aggregate of the thirty-seven companies, is more than five millions of dollars, on which a tax of one-half of one per cent. would be twenty-five thousand dollars, increasing the revenue of the State from this source more than six thousand dollars, and at the same time equalizing the tax in accordance with the business done and profits received. An efficient law, establishing an Insurance Department, such as is recommended, would meet this and all matters connected with the subject of insurance in all its branches.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER.

The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people. It caused a thrill of horror to spread throughout the country; and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers. Women and children who had been accustomed to regard the occupation of the miner as one of ordinary character, now look upon it as fraught with danger, and part with relatives and friends, when about to pursue their perilous occupation, with fearful forebodings. And even the sturdy miner, himself, trembles at his dangerous calling, and demands greater protection than has hitherto been afforded.

The history of this terrible calamity seems to be as follows: Early on the morning of the 6th of September last, one hundred and eight men entered the Avondale Mine to prosecute their avocation. None of them anticipated danger as they descended the fatal shaft; not one supposed that he was entering a tomb in which he was to be buried alive. But the destroying angel hovered over them, and the shaft, constructed principally of combustible materials, having become ignited from some cause, yet undetermined, was soon a sheet of flame, and huge burning timbers came tumbling from above, choking up with fire and smoke the only avenue of escape. Sensible of their peril, the unfortunate men sought a place of safety, but it was not to be found. They cried for succor, but no earthly arm could give them help; hopeless they huddled together, and clasped in each other's arms, met death in one of its most frightful and agonizing forms.

Whilst this fearful scene was transpiring below, the immense wooden structure above the shaft took fire, and burning with frightful rapidity, was soon reduced to a crumbling mass. Thousands of men, women and children soon surrounded the place, and being unable to afford the slightest relief to their suffering friends below, filled the air with lamentations, appalling even to the stoutest hearts. Never before was a scene more heart-rending witnessed within the limits of this Commonwealth, and it is trusted that through your prompt and efficient legislative action, another such will never be permitted to occur.

The mines in many cases are constructed and managed in the most selfish and parsimonious manner, the owners exacting the largest amount of profit from them, from the least possible outlay; consequently some of them, like that of Avondale, are nothing but underground man-traps, without any other outlets than wooden chimnies, and these constantly liable to become blazing volcanoes, through which escape is impossible. The lives of so useful a class of men as our miners should not, and must not be permitted to be thus sacrificed upon the altar of human cupidity. Yet a reprehensible neglect to give them that protection by law which their valuable services, at best laborious and dangerous, unquestionably deserve, renders our mining system worse than that of any other country, whilst our mining interests are unequalled by those of any other part of the world.

The most appalling accidents on record have been traced to unsafe methods of ventilation, and more especially to the employment of furnaces at or near the bottom of the shafts. Where the furnace is used, and the smoke is carried through a wooden chimney, it seems almost certain that, sooner or later, by the inevitable accumulation of soot or carbon upon the frame-work, it must ignite from the ascending sparks or from the heat of the furnace, and a conflagration ensue. To guard against this, it should be made obligatory, if the ventilating furnace be still allowed, to build the chimnies, the sides of the shaft, and the buildings surrounding it at the top with incombustible materials. But even this precaution is not a sure safeguard, for the fire is liable, at any moment, to communicate with the "fire-damp" or other gaseous vapors, that, despite of all known means of prevention, will generate in the best regulated mines. The propriety of dispensing entirely, therefore, with the furnace, has received the serious consideration of scientific miners and engineers, and the fan, in many instances, has been substituted, which being worked by machinery at the surface, produces a more constant current of air, dispenses it more freely through the gangways and chambers, and, in all respects, accomplishes the object desired with better effect; and when the shafts and surface buildings are fire-proof, without the posibility of danger. This system of ventilation, with advantages so palpably obvious, will, no doubt, be universally adopted. But the very nature of mining operations subjects them to other dangers. The walls and roofing of the mines, from the effects of blasting and other causes, frequently give way and fill up the gangways so as to render them impassable, as in the more recent calamity at Stockton, which resulted in the death of ten persons. Hence it is absolutely necessary, and should be imperatively demanded, that every mine should have more than a single avenue of ingress and egress. Whether as regards fire, or any other source of danger to which the miner is exposed, this is his surest promise of safety. Whatever system of ventilation may be approved, or safety lamp adopted, the means of escape from the mines, when danger occurs, will depend very materially upon the provision made for the exit of the miner.

The best method of constructing, ventilating and working the mines, should be unhesitatingly adopted; and the system adopted rigidly enforced. The inquiry, therefore, into the causes which produced this shocking catastrophe—the various theories that have been promulgated concerning it, the remedies for the prevention of similar occurrences hereafter, the construction and ventilation of collieries, and the modes of conducting their operations so that the operatives may prosecute their labor without imperilling their lives, are proper subjects for legislative consideration.

Such laws as you may enact can most certainly be enforced by competent inspectors in the mining districts, who should be chosen with strict regard to character, integrity, capability and scientific knowledge; and whose duties should be so specifically defined that they cannot be misunderstood.

I, therefore, most respectfully and earnestly recommend that this whole subject receive the attention its importance demands, and that a law be passed, so general in its character and so stringent in its provisions, that the people of this Commonwealth will never again be appalled by a calamity, within her limits, so sad as that of Avondale.

BOARD OF PUBLIC CHARITIES.

In accordance with an act of the last Legislature, a Board of Public Charities has been appointed, consisting of the following gentlemen, viz: Gen. Thomas L. Kane, for five years; F. B. Penniman, Esq., four years; Hon. G. Dawson Coleman, three years; George L. Harrison, Esq., two years; and —————— one year. The board organized by electing Gen. Kane, President, and Hon. Wilmer Worthington, Secretary and General Agent. From the establishment of this board, and especially from the high character and qualifications of the gentlemen who have consented to assume its important trusts and responsibilities, we have reason to hope for the most beneficial results. This change in the management of our charitable affairs is deemed of the highest importance by many persons intimately conversant with the workings and management of these institutions.

A thorough review of all the establishments receiving appropriations from the State by this board, will give an assurance to the Legislature and the people, which they have never heretofore possessed, that their benefactions will be worthily bestowed and properly employed.

Some time during the present session, the board will present to the Legislature a report of the condition and requirements of the various institutions that have been recipients of appropriations from the State, with such recommendations as may be deemed necessary; and, therefore, no information concerning them, except the annual reports of the superintendents, will at present be laid before you.

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

Many prominent citizens have represented that there exists great necessity for a more complete geological and mineralogical survey of the State than at present exists.

There is no doubt but that the developments of mineral wealth that would result from such a survey would be immense, and the beneficial returns to the State would many times more than reimburse the Treasury for the expenses attending it, including the printing of reports, maps, &c, sufficient for the information of the people.

Should the Legislature concur in these views, and pass a law authorizing such a survey, it will meet with Executive approval.

INSPECTION OF GAS.

At the last session a law was passed creating the office of inspector of gas and gas metres for the county of Allegheny; and in accordance therewith I have appointed an inspector possessing the necessary scientific qualifications.

The necessity for such a law has been long and extensively felt, and it has been earnestly demanded by a large number of highly respectable citizens, whose opinions are eminently worthy of consideration. I therefore respectfully recommend that the just and equitable provisions of the Allegheny county law be extended to other counties in which gas is largely consumed.

REVISION OF THE CIVIL CODE.

The law on this subject does not contemplate a full report from the Commissioners to revise the general statutes of the State, before the session of 1871. It may, however, be important to state that this work has so far progressed as to make it almost certain that it will be completed and ready for the press so soon after the close of the present session as will allow time to bring within the code such of your enactments as may with propriety be incorporated.

The Commissioners will report for your consideration, the revised school laws, as the present edition is exhausted, and it would be inexpedient to reprint them, when they might be superseded by others in the course of the current year.

A general road law, and one for the support and maintenance of the poor, have heretofore been reported but not definitely acted upon, and the frequent demands made for such enactments to correct many existing abuses, and supply a common public want, render it desirable that these enactments should receive your early attention.

The State census will be taken during the year, and the law for its regulation having in it some provisions not now required, a revised bill will be presented by the Commissioner for legislative action.

In view of the changes which the revised code is expected to produce, it is desirable that no more laws of a general character be enacted than is indispensably necessary, as they might occasion a necessity for a revision of what has already received appropriate attention, and cause delay in the completion of the work.

STATISTICS.

A great inconvenience has long been felt in every department of the executive and legislative branches of the government, for the want of properly recorded statistical information, relating to the development and growth of the resources of the Commonwealth. It is impossible for any State officer to report the actual or even the approximate amount of any of our great natural resources, and it cannot be ascertained from year to year the amount of coal mined, petroleum produced, lumber cut or iron manufactured, without special reference to those who have charge of the industries growing out of these products. At very little cost and labor, statistics relating to all these objects could be gathered and annually embraced in a report to be made to and published by the Legislature. The value of such information would be of incalculable importance in an official way, as well as in the general business of the country. It would stimulate competition, exhibit the inexhaustible materials within our borders, and give our people and others a more perfect idea of our wealth and resources. The recommendation made last year for the establishment of a desk for the collection and preservation of statistics relative to exports and imports, agriculture, manufactures, coal, iron, oil, lumber, &c., and for the collection of mineralogical and geological specimens, and other things that may be deemed appropriate to such a department, is respectfully renewed, with the suggestion that the duties be attached to the office of the Librarian and his assistant, with a reasonable increase of compensation, and an appropriation for the same.

PRISON DISCIPLINE.

In accordance with a law approved April 13, 1867, Mahlon H. Dickinson, Esq., of Philadelphia, was appointed "to visit, for philanthropic purposes, the prisons and almshouses in the various counties of the Commonwealth." His second report, which is herewith presented, embraces a vast amount of useful information, and will be found highly interesting and worthy of mature consideration. It will be seen that while some of our county prisons have been constructed and are being conducted with strict regard to the proper objects of punishment, others are utterly unfit for any such purposes, and are a disgrace and reproach to a civilized age and a Christian people. The Commissioner, in regard to some of these, describes them "as being unsafe, where prisoners could not be held unless loaded with chains, where the sexes were not separated, where there was no discipline, or any effort made towards the moral or religious improvement of the inmates; the buildings totally unfit for the purposes of a prison; and where the prisoners become schooled in vice, and eventually graduated prepared for a life of lawlessness." In some of the prisons the cells are represented as contracted dungeons, into which not a ray of sunshine or a draft of pure air can enter, and in which a human being could not possibly live through a lengthy term of sentence. And in still others, in consequence of the want of proper accommodations, all classes of criminals, from the most hardened and aged to the youth of tender years, are permitted to congregate and indulge in card playing, profanity, and almost every species of immorality and crime. Under such circumstances, reformation, which is the grand object of divine, and should be of all human laws and punishments, is rendered impossible; whilst hideous lessons of vice are taught and learned, to be practiced when future opportunity occurs. This is all wrong, and a remedy for the evil should by all means be applied. No community has a moral or legal right to inflict punishment as a mere retaliatory measure, or in such a manner, as to endanger the health and life of the criminal, to deaden him to all the better sensibilities of his nature, and to absolutely harden him to the commission of crime.

The commissioners appointed "to inquire into the various systems of prison discipline, as practiced in other States and countries, as compared with what is known as the Pennsylvania system," will submit you their report at an early day, from which you will learn that the capacity of our penitentiaries is at present competent for the safe keeping and proper punishment of all offenders of the higher grades, and that work houses and houses of correction are needed for those whose crimes are of a more trivial character, and whose reformation and future usefulness may be accomplished by a humane system of discipline, such as will be recommended.

THE JUDICIARY.

Communications have been received from various parts of the State, representing that the present judicial force is inadequate for the purposes designed. Since the number of judges was fixed, the business of the courts has greatly increased, with our rapidly expanding population, and the multiplication of commercial and business operations of our growing Commonwealth. How far relief should be afforded is well worthy of careful consideration.

In one district of the Supreme Court, over seven hundred new cases have been docketed within one year. Many of these involve very large amounts, and important legal principles; and their proper consideration imposes upon judges great labor and responsibility. In the other districts of this court the argument lists are also becoming so crowded that it is impossible to dispose of the business with that promptness and intelligence demanded by the public interests; and especially, with one of the judges, as now required by law, assigned to duty in the court of *nisi prius* at Philadelphia. I, therefore, earnestly recommend an additional judge for this court, believing it a public necessity, in justice to the many suitors, and to the judges who have more work than should be required of the present number of men, let them be ever so laborious and efficient.

BOUNDARY LINE.

In obedience to "an act to settle, determine and locate the southern boundary line of the Commonwealth," approved March 20, 1869. I appointed James Worrall, Esq., of Harrisburg, and Strickland Kneass, Esq., of Philadelphia, both civil engineers, Commissioners on the part of Pennsylvania, to act "in conjunction with like Commissioners on the part of the State of Delaware."

The Governor of that State was promptly furnished with a copy of the act, and informed of the appointment of Commissioners under it, and his co-operation invited. But, so far as I am advised, no action of any kind has been taken by Delaware on the subject; and consequently the work contemplated by the act above referred to has not been performed.

Your special attention is invited to the report of our Commissioners, which is herewith communicated.

IN MEMORIAM.

It is eminently proper that special notice should be taken of the decease of such persons as have occupied prominent positions in, and rendered distinguished services to the State. Conspicuous among these were Hon. Joseph Ritner and Hon. David R. Porter, both of whom died during the present administration. During their eventful lives they shared largely in the public confidence and regard, and filled many posts of honor, trust and responsibility, including that of Governor, with distinguished fidelity and patriotism. They were conspicuously identified with all the grave and important questions of State policy and administration, through the eventful period in which they lived, and contributed largely to shape and strengthen the firm foundations of our Commonwealth, upon which others have been enabled to build securely. They have passed away, ripe in years and full of honors; and it is respectfully submitted whether it be not proper for the Legislature to take some appropriate notice of the lamented death of these two distinguished public servants.

PARDONS.

It has grown into a custom to regard an application for Executive clemency as an indispensable part of the machinery of criminal justice. Because the Executive is invested with the power to pardon, it is by many supposed that he has not only the right, but that it is his duty to examine into every allegation of error, and give a favorable response to every application, and hence, petitions for pardon are becoming so numerous that the mere examination of them is exhaustive of a large amount of valuable time; at least an hour in each case, exclusive of the time occupied in correspondence with the judges, district attorneys and other parties. Criminals are no sooner convicted, than their friends, and other interested parties, who seem to think that it is the Governor's constitutional duty to nullify the laws instead of seeing that they are faithfully executed, prepare a raid upon him, and employ in their importunities for pardon every device the human ingenuity can suggest, and if but a tithe of the representations set forth were believed, one would be led to suppose that our courts are daily guilty of the grossest blunders, and that justice is far more blind than she has ever been painted by the most skillful artist.

During the year ending December 31, 1869, there have been fifteen hundred and fifty applications for pardon, of which sixty-two, or four per cent., were granted, eleven hundred and eight rejected, and three hundred and eighty are still under advisement.

For some reason, not easily understood, it seems that public sentiment has become perverted on this important subject of pardons. The framers of our government, as I understand it, never contemplated or intended an indiscriminate use of the pardoning power. It was only designed for the correction of manifest errors or oppressions, palpable mistakes, cases of after-discovered evidence, and others of exceptional character. Both the theory of our government and public policy require that the pardoning power should be kept within these reasonable limits; and not be made an instrument to defeat the execution of the laws and the administration of public justice. All ordinary cases, therefore, are wholly outside of, and in conflict with, the principle on which Executive clemency should be based; and none such should be presented for consideration. It is earnestly hoped the public will understand and act in accordance with this view of the subject, as due alike to the Executive and a proper regard for the execution of the laws.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS.

Having laid before you a general survey of the affairs and condition of the State, which relate to the common welfare, it affords me also the highest gratification to add that the amicable intercourse and pleasant relations which have so long existed between the governments of Pennsylvania and the governments of all the other States and of the Union, continue unimpaired; and consequently, our resolution, "to preserve, protect and defend" these fundamental principles of humanity, equal rights and equal justice to all, universal freedom and a united country, is greatly strengthened.

The general relations of the National Government, as set forth in the recent annual message of the President, continue to be "peace at home and without entangling alliances abroad;" the reconstruction of the States lately in rebellion is being rapidly accomplished—the revenues are faithfully collected—the national debt is being liquidated, at the rate of about one hundred million dollars per annum, and repudiation has been emphatically repudiated. A strict and uncompromising adherence to this policy by a prudent and economical administration has already restored the national character to the fullest confidence in the minds, not only of our countrymen but of foreigners, and has allayed all spirit of discontent that might have been dangerous to the stability of our institutions.

There is another subject also of national importance claiming our attention, because it directly affects the industrial operations in which Pennsylvania is so largely interested. Movements, characterized with the greatest energy, are now being made by those interested in free trade, to induce Congress to take such action as will permit the free introduction of steel, iron and iron materials for ship building, and many other modifications of the tariff laws. Should such efforts be successful, the result must prove disastrous to the great coal, iron and other interests of our State, diminishing the production of iron and other manufactured articles, and consequently the consumption of coal, and be destructive to our valuable home markets. It would also prove disastrous to many of our capitalists and working people—depriving them of all reasonable prospects of future activity and remunerating wages—and bring our producers into a ruinous competition with pauper labor from abroad. So far as the present system affords protection to the manufacturers, labor and products of Pennsylvania, it is obligatory upon us to use all favorable means to prevent any reduction of existing duties. Our miners, laborers, and manufacturers should not be thrown out of employment by the proposed change of duties on foreign imports, which has always heretofore resulted in the prostration of every department of trade, labor and business, and entailed upon us the manifold evils of National, State and individual bankruptcy. We owe it as a duty to our constituents to instruct our Senators and request our Representatives in Congress to oppose all such attempts. For the same reasons we should oppose any reciprocity treaties by which the people of Canada can gain advantages over our own lumbermen, farmers and other producers, within our limits.

While acknowledging the rightful constitutional authority of the General Government to dispose all questions relative to national affairs, and while in no manner seeking to interfere with the exercise of that authority, I cannot refrain from alluding to the fact, that for more than a year a brave people in Cuba have been struggling for their independence against great odds, in the face of barbarities and atrocities which will forever be a foul blot upon the history of Spain. We should indeed be unmindful of humanity and of the greatness of our nationality, if we omitted to notice this patriotic effort by the Cubans to throw off the Spanish yoke, and like our own ancestors, "to assume among the powers of the earth the separate and equal station to which nature and nature's God entitle them." The new organization has abolished slavery, and attested its right not only to our sympathy but to recognition, by the vigor and determination of its resistance to the oppressions of the mother country. Almost from the beginning of our National Government, Congress has furnished numerous precedents for the action here indicated, even when the people struggling for liberty were not upon the American continent. They recognized Greece in her efforts to establish her nationality against Turkish oppression. The same spirit prevailed not only towards Poland, Italy and Hungary, but to Ireland in all her movements to regain her long lost nationality. These countries had the unmistakable sympathy of the people of the United States, and our public men, in every branch of the government, never hesitated to speak in their defense. In the case of the French revolution, the statesmen of America gave every encouragement to the people of that country to establish a republican form of government. Upon this continent there are numerous instances of active sympathies with the struggles of the people for liberty in various nations. In the case of Texas, during her conflict with Mexico, she not only had our undisguised friendship, but obtained our recognition of her independent nationality, and soon afterwards she was annexed to our great sisterhood of States.

It is in singular contrast with these historic precedents, that the people of Cuba have as yet received no national encouragement or recognition, while they are imitating the example of our fathers, who, as colonists, struck down the hand which oppressed them, and established for themselves a free and independent government. There is no question but that the patriots of Cuba have the warm and emphatic sympathy of a great majority of the people of this and other States, and I but give utterance to what is an abiding sentiment among the masses, when I declare a hearty sympathy with the people of that island now endeavoring to cast off the yoke of oppression fastened so long upon them by an intolerant government. The Gem of the Antilles of right belongs to republican rule, and is, to all intents and purposes, covered by the Monroe doctrine, so that whatever recognition the Government might extend to Republicans of Cuba, it would only amount to the practical enforcement of what our nation has so long advanced in theory. Cuba is an American island. Geographically it belongs to the United States. Its acquisition has been a leading principle with many of our ablest statesmen from an early period in our history. Jefferson, Madison, Adams, Clay, Van Buren, Buchanan and many others advocated the incorporation of Cuba into the Union. It is hoped the time will soon come, if it has not already arrived, when by the enunciation of a prompt and decided policy a brave people may be recognized as independent, and the cause of republican principles receive new encouragement.

The management of our national finances is one of the most delicate and important questions now under consideration by the American people, and while it is not my intention to offer any plan to settle a matter which seems to give so much trouble to many of our most experienced financiers, a few suggestions may not be out of place.

It will be remembered that by the establishment of our National banks, the best and safest paper currency that ever existed in this nation has been afforded. Great caution should therefore be taken not to mar a system that has been so generally beneficial. When the government established the National banks, our State banks were taxed out of existence and destroyed as such, but in many instances they were renewed by the solemn enactment of Congress, under whose supervision they were promised a just, kind and fostering care. It seems unjust, therefore, that the Government should propose to withdraw a part of their circulation from them and give it to new ones to be organized where none now exist. If new banks should be created wherever they may be required, they should receive their circulation from an increase of the amount now authorized by law. The circulation to be the same as the banks now have, and on the same kind of securities. In my opinion, a policy of expansion of the currency should be adopted that will give ease and comfort to the people, and that will cheer up and reassure our business men and put the wheels of commerce, manufactures and labor in full operation. It will prevent a decline in the revenues derived from the tariff and internal taxation, and will save thousands of citizens from the crushing effects of contraction. As a part of the same policy, there should be no hesitation about the abandonment of the idea of reducing the currency by the adoption of any plan to curtail the amount of legal tenders now in circulation.

The constant and natural approach to specie payments is the only safe mode, in my opinion, to accomplish that desirable end. Any compulsory law that may be enacted will in all probability be a failure. I do not hesitate to say that the contraction of the currency at this time would be productive of great injury both to individuals and to the general interests of the Nation. Let there be a liberal encouragement of railroads, manufactures and every project that will afford employment and compensation to our toiling millions. Encourage a vigorous collection of the revenues on luxuries. Maintain a strong treasury, with gold sufficient to keep a check upon those who might be disposed to disturb the natural tendency towards specie payments, or for the purposes of speculation. There should be a steady but moderate reduction of the National debt, a funding of the present six per cent. five-twenty bonds in others, at a lower rate of interest, not by compulsion but by fair dealing, and the establishing of a sinking fund, at such a rate as will pay off the debt in about thirty years. We shall then not only find the business of the country reviving, but our business men ready to expand their operations with the greatest encouragement.

The foregoing are the only subjects connected with State and National affairs that I have deemed of sufficient importance to offer for your consideration at the present time; and I conclude by expressing the hope that your session will be marked by harmony among yourselves and the members of the several State Departments, and your deliberations result in lasting benefit to the Commonwealth.

JNO. W. GEARY.

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,
Harrisburg, January 5, 1870.

IT is stated that more than 50,000 men, and as many women, are out of employment in New York at the present time. And yet nothing that can be said will prevent people from swarming to the large cities.

HARRISBURG.

THE STATE TREASURERSHIP.

The Ring Said to be Dealing in Envelopes.

Mackey's Friends Claim 49 Votes

THEY WANT A CAUCUS TO-DAY

IRWIN DECLARES HE IS READY.

Proceedings of the Legislature.

The "Record" Job Repudiated.

Legislation on the Treasury Question—A Constitutional Convention Proposed—A Special Mining Bill—Allegheny Members Earnest Reformers.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

HARRISBURG, January 5, 1870.

The Record Job.

The Senate was feared on the *Record* job, but Mr. Howard got through a resolution declaring as the sense of the Senate that it should be no longer published at the expense of the State. There was some skirmishing, but the resolution passed nearly unanimously, without the call of the yeas and nays. There was the same action by the House. It is only a question of time, as the sentiment against the *Record* is overwhelming. The proposition now is to have copies of the journals furnished daily by the State printer.

The Franking Privilege.

It goes awkward to members to pay their own postage, and the Harrisburg Postmaster is annoying them to induce the re-enactment of the franking privilege. The postage last session cost $18,473 for the House, and $10,638 for the Senate; total, $29,111. Mr. Olmstead has a bell in the Senate to renew the privilege, but it will be voted down by the reformers.

The Allegheny Members Staunch Reformers.

The Allegheny members are in earnest on retrenchment, and there are no signs of any flinching on their part.

Legislation on the Treasurer Question.

There is a growing feeling in favor of amending the Constitution, by making the Treasurer elective by the people. If got to a vote it will pass both Houses. The Governor's views on the unexpended balance, and the stinging rebuke to all the operations of the Treasury "Ring," meets universal approval, and strengthens the friends of retrenchment and reform. It seems certain a law such as he recommends will pass. A half dozen bills are ready on the subject. All concede the Treasurer a liberal salary, five or six thousand dollars, but place the funds beyond the reach of rings and insure revenue from a judicious investment in State securities or deposits in banks. No matter how the Treasurer's election will result, it is conceded the office will be shorn of its plundering capacities.

A House Contested Seat.

The Committee to try the Philadelphia contested case of Graham against Mooney was drawn to-day, and it is claimed by the Democrats as a special providence, as it consists of eight Democrats to one Republican.

SECOND DISPATCH.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

HARRISBURG, January 5.—MIDNIGHT.

The Treasury Excitement.

The excitement on Treasurer is more intense than yesterday, although there is not so much noise. Mackey's friends want the caucus to-morrow, which indicates confidence in their strength. They have submitted requests to the Speakers to call it, and Strang and Stinson are now consulting and undecided. The probabilities are there will be no caucus before Monday. Movements of to-day have been quiet, and their character will be judged by the results.

The Greenback Argument.

Statements as to transactions by the Treasury ring with envelopes are freely made, and like charges are reiterated that the railroad company is throwing its weight for Irwin. Both candidates express confidence, but Mackey's friends are more jubilant over an alleged pledge signed by members to support him. A number of members, possibly enough to decide the question, have declined to state positively who they will vote for. If any pinchers are here they are enjoying a harvest, and operations in votes in caucus are quoted at surprising figures.

Adjournment to Monday.

The Legislature adjourns to-morrow until Monday.

Special Dispatch to Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, PA., January 5, 1870.

SENATE.

The Governor's message was read.

Bills Introduced.

By Mr. Wallace—Fixing the salary of the State Treasurer at five thousand dollars; locating the Treasury at the capital; preventing deposits and loans by the Treasurer for his own benefit, and punishing it by fine and imprisonment, and appropriating all surplus funds to the payment of the State debt as rapidly as it accumulates.

Mr. Graham—Supplement for Allegheny county prison; incorporating the Sharpsburg and Etna Savings Society.

Mr. White—Providing for calling a convention to amend the constitution to be voted for or against at the October election, the convention to meet on November seventeenth.

Mr. Turner—Incorporating the Avondale Relief Association. Passed to second reading.

Also a general Mining Bill providing substantially that each mine shall have two openings; a map of each mine shall be furnished an Inspector; on complaint of any Inspector of the dangerous condition of a mine the courts may interfere; ventilating pumps, &c., shall be controlled by the overseer; safety lamps shall be used as well as speaking tubes; the hoisting apparatus shall have a safety catch, and the car shall be covered; boilers shall be inspected; a separate inspection is provided for Luzerne and Carbon, and the Schuylkill Inspector shall extend his sway over Columbia, Northumberland and Dauphin. The Inspectors are to be appointed on the recommendation of the Board of Examiners, this Board to be chosen by the Governor, by practical coal miners and mining engineers, and the Court of Common Pleas. This bill is understood to be sanctioned by the Miner's Union of the Luzerne district. Tabled and ordered to be printed.

The Legislative Record Contract Ended.

Mr. Howard, of Allegheny, introduced the following:

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that the paper called *The Daily Legislative Record* should no longer be published at the expense of the State.

Mr. White, of Indiana, thought there ought to be some published record, and asked for time for deliberation. He moved an amendment for a joint committee on the subject.

Mr. Brown, of Lehigh, charged that the *Record* had been falsified, and that men were whitewashed in it, citing facts in proof.

Mr. Howard thought the *Record* might be published as a private enterprise, but it had cost the State too much and was badly conducted.

Messrs. Billingfelt and Lowry supported the resolution.

Mr. White withdrew his amendment.

Mr. Olmsted moved an amendment by adding that the *Record* should not be printed on the present contract. Carried, and the resolution as amended carried unanimously.

Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The message was read, and occupied over one hour.

Two hours were occupied in selecting the committee on the contested election of Graham, Republican, and Mooney, Democrat, of Philadelphia. Messrs. Millikin, McAteer, Forsyth, Bowman, Carlin, Dimmick, Leedig, Brobst and Hall were drawn as the committee, of whom eight are Democrats and one Republican.

Adjourned.

The Treasurership Caucus.

The Treasuryship is still excitedly discussed, with the probabilities to-night in favor of Mackey. His friends claim forty-nine votes. A paper with signatures has been presented asking Speaker Stinson to call a Treasury caucus to-morrow, Speaker Strang having conceded the authority to Speaker Stinson. The caucus will perhaps be held to-morrow, for which Irwin declares he is ready.

ALMOST AN AVONDALE HORROR.

Breaker of the Nottingham Mine at Plymouth, Pa., on Fire—Fifty-five Men in the Mine at the Time—The Fire Providentially Extinguished—The Result of Gross Carelessness on the Part of Mine Owners—The Men Demand Measures for Their Protection.

PLYMOUTH, PA., December 31.—There was nearly a repetition of the Avondale horror here yesterday. About half-past 10 A. M. the breaker of the Nottingham mine, situated at the southern end of town, was discovered on fire. There were fifty-five men in the mine at the times which is one of the man-traps like the Avondale, with but one outlet. Notwithstanding this no notice was given to the men below that the building above was on fire. Fortunately, it was soon discovered, and with great exertion not only prevented from spreading, but extinguished, the men below remaining all the while in ignorance of their danger. The fire was the result of gross carelessness on the part of the company working it. It appears that two stoves were kept in the breaker to give heat to the boys employed there to pick out slate from coal as it goes in the breaker, and the pipes from these stoves were run directly through the wood work of the building without any protection. The woodwork was heated until it became of the consistency of tinder, and then ignited. At noon some of the men came up to dinner, and although every exertion was made to keep the fire from their knowledge, the fact leaked out, and they became aware for the first time of the terrible fate they had escaped. When they went down again they informed the rest of the men and they at once held an indignation meeting and resolved to go up out of the mine. When they got up they assembled the rest of the miners belonging in the mine, in all about seventy-five, and held another meeting, resolving that they would not again go down into the mine until there were built two chimneys for the stove pipes, a watchman placed in charge of the building night and day, and a bell at the bottom of the shaft, so that they should have a signal when there was danger at the surface. Since that the mine has not been worked, and the men still remain firm. The proprietors, Broderick & Co., not being able to get any men to supply the places of the old hands, have yielded to their demands so far as the two chimneys are concerned, and their construction has been commenced, but they think one watchman in the night is sufficient, and decline to place one there in the day time. The men say this only shows a willingness to protect their own property, and as their lives are exposed in the day time, they say they still insist on two watchmen and also the bell.

WASHINGTON.

The Annexation of San Domingo

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 5, 1870.

The Control of Spain.

There is a good deal of talk here about the report of the resignation of Prim and other members of the Spanish ministry. Late letters of an unofficial character from Gen. Sickles throw some light on the subject. The Prim party staked their fortunes on the success of the movement to get the Duke of Genoa on the throne, in which case Prim would have been virtual sovereign. The Serrano party were opposed to this scheme, and wanted to make Serrano Regent, leave the Cortes dissolve itself, and then elect a legislative assembly. It would appear that Prim has been decidedly defeated, and that the Serrano men have carried the day on the first issue. Whether they can carry the point about the Cortes remains to be seen.

San Domingo.

Somebody, apparently in New York, is sending out a circular on San Domingo affairs. It is a strong protest against the annexation of that country to the United States; says we have already taken possession, and are eagerly grasping after territory everywhere, and warns the people of the Island that they will be worse than slaves when fully in our power. It calls on them to resist Baez and his machinations, and adroitly suggests a revolution for his overthrow. Nobody here knows the source of this circular, but it appears as if intended for general circulation in San Domingo.

Unhappy Maryland Legislature.

The Maryland Legislature, which met to-day, is wholly Democratic in both chambers, but it is not likely to be a very happy family for all that. One of the questions on which there will be a lively time is that relating to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, which collects a capitation tax from all passengers and refuses to pay it over to the State. The State Treasurer wants to get hold of it, but the company claim it is precluded by the ruling of the Supreme Court from turning it over to anybody. The course that will be taken by the Legislature has not been developed.

Marshal Hickenlooper Resigns.

Mr. Hickenlooper, Marshal for the Southern District of Ohio, arrived here from Cincinnati this morning, and to relieve the President from possible political embarrassment, tendered the resignation of his position, which will probably be accepted.

Anniversary Celebration.

The people of Michigan living here will on the twenty-sixth inst., celebrate the thirty-third anniversary of the admission of their State into the Union.

Railway Communication with Washington.

Congressman Welker, of Ohio, made a speech at the meeting here last evening on the subject of railroad communication with Washington.

Verdict Against Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

The city of Washington has finally scored up one against the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and to-day gained its suit against the company, as a nuisance in obstructing the streets. The Railroad will of course carry the case up on exceptions to a full bench, and if the verdict of the jury is there sustained, a small section of the track in the city will be torn up if the line is not at once conformed to the street grade. Negotiations are going on for a compromise.

Mail Robbery in Colorado.

The Post Office Department is advised to-day, by telegraph, of the robbery of the mail between Denver and Cheyenne for the second time since Christmas, and Mr. Creswell has applied to the War Department for a military patrol on the road for the protection of the coaches and passengers, which will probably be furnished.

Postal Investigation.

The House Postoffice Committee returned to-night from their tour of investigation to Boston and New York. They took a large amount of evidence, which will be laid before the House the last of next week. It is not known yet what conclusions were reached.

A Mayor Held to Bail for Assault.

Mayor Bowen of this city, was arrested this morning for assault on a citizen in his office last Monday, and gave two hundred dollars bail for court. This is only an incident of the disgraceful mess constantly prevailing among the wire pullers of the Republican party in this city.

WASHINGTON, January 5.

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES FOR DECEMBER.

The payments by the Treasurer for the month of December, exclusive of payments on account of interest or redemption of the public debt, were as follows:

Civil and Miscellaneous	$ 3,844,662 61
War	4,852,498 85
Navy	2,141,046 95
Indians and pensions	959,623 45
Total	$11,797,282 12

NAVAL CHANGE.

Commodore Joseph H. Green has been ordered in readiness to command the eastern squadron of the North Atlantic fleet, now commanded by Admiral Poor. The eastern squadron of the North Atlantic fleet comprises the vessels stationed north of Cuba and south of the Chesapeake.

THE STRIKE.

The strike of the Western Union Telegraph operators continues. The night and day chief operators, Clark and Morean, this afternoon joined their brethren. The main office here is transacting business, although with a comparatively small number of operators not connected with the Telegraphers' organization. Additional striking is reported throughout the South, the strike now being general.

RECEPTIONS.

The families of members of the Cabinet, Gen. Sherman, the Vice President, Speaker of the House of Representatives and others of prominence, held their afternoon receptions to-day, which were severally largely attended, principally by ladies. The receptions of the families of Senators and Representatives take place Thursday.

PEACE AMONG THE INDIANS.

Official advices to the Indian Department from Camp Supply, Idaho Territory, state that agent Darlington had, in a recent interview with Powder Face, one of the Arapaho chiefs, been informed that part of that tribe, in connection with some of the leading Cheyennes, in the course of their hunting excursions, had met with companies of Osages, Comanches and Kiowas, and talked about peace with each other and shaking hands all around as an earnest of their intentions. The place of the meeting was on the North Canadian, not very far from the proposed agency site. Commissioner Parker will return to this city to-morrow after an absence of two weeks.

FOUND GUILTY.

In the Criminal Court to-day, in the case of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, charged with obstructing the highways, the jury, under instructions, found a verdict of guilty on all the counts except the third, which charges that the road obstructs travel by being below the natural surface of the ground.

SLAVERY ABOLISHED IN PARAGUAY.

Information is received that the provisional government recently organized by the allies in Paraguay, besides abolishing slavery and declaring Lopez an outlaw, has issued a decree abolishing monopolies which were established by Lopez to spoliate the wealthy of that Republic to his own profit.

THE THREATENED SIOUX RAID.

General Hancock Interviewed by Dennis, who Denounces the Story of a Sioux Raid as False—Protest Against Military Action—The Settlers Arming for Defense—McDougall in Chicago—The Insurrection Solely to Promote Annexation to the United States.

CHICAGO, January 4.—The *Tribune* has a special of this date, which says: Governor McDougall left to-day for Canada, leaving Henchman and Dennis behind. Dennis called this forenoon on General Hancock, commanding that department, and denounced the reports published this morning regarding the reported movements of the Sioux Indians upon American settlements in the spring, and protesting against military action being taken thereon. Two gentlemen from Pembina also called upon General Hancock and placed in his hands documents supporting the assertions of the threatened Sioux raid, and asking military protection. General Hancock asked for copies of the documents, to be forwarded to the War Department, and said he should wait instructions, though he did not think any movement of troops this winter would be necessary.

A Pembina letter, from an intelligent and reliable American gentleman, who has remained entirely neutral since the rebellion began, says he has been warned of the threatened movement of Indians to wipe out the American settlement, and adds: "This supposed belief, but evidence on this subject is accumulating, and I fear we will see bloody work as soon as spring opens, unless ample protection is afforded us by our own government. In fact, this is so well understood here that the people of St. Joseph are organizing their forces for self-protection, and have sent two most influential citizens to this place to make arrangements for the co-operation of Pembina and St. Joseph settlers against the Sioux Indians." The same gentleman says the insurgents are now preparing for the spring campaign by organizing a regiment of infantry and a squadron of cavalry for drill and discipline. He confirms the opinion that the aim and object of the leaders is annexation to the United States, though at present they avow their allegiance to the home government.

CHICAGO, January 5.—Mr. Launa, editor of the Windsor, Canada, *Record*, arrived at St. Paul last night from Fort Garry. He says the prisoners captured by the insurgents were all sentenced to banishment, except Schultz, Mair, Snow and Hallit. Their fate is not known. All the banished prisoners went to Pembina on the 25th ult. McDougall, in anticipation of this fact, provided for their conveyance to St. Paul before he left. Launa denies that Schultz was engaged in a gunpowder plot.

Governor McDougall, his daughter and three sons arrived here this morning from St. Paul, and left this afternoon at five o'clock, via the Michigan Central Railroad. He asserted in an interview to-day that the Red River war is an insignificant affair, so far as the numbers and equipments of the insurgents are concerned. The largest portion of the insurgents, he says, are controlled by the postmaster at Fort Garry, who caused the seizure of McDougall's correspondence and put him to other trouble. He says he did not wish to precipitate civil war, and ordered his adherents to quietly pursue their avocations until some steps are taken by the Canadian Government. The Governor states that it takes eight days to come from Pembina to the nearest railroad station in Minnesota. During the trip down the thermometer stood at twenty degrees below zero. He says the movement of the rebellion is in the interest of annexation to the United States, but thinks the people will not sustain it.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

Portuguese Cortes.

LISBON, January 5.—The general Cortes assembled to-day, and the session was opened by King Louis. In his speech His Majesty refers with gratification to the state of tranquility which now exists at home and abroad. He promises that the Government will introduce important measures of reform and economy.

Expedition to Recover Lost Treasure.

PARIS, January 5.—An expedition is preparing to sail from France to recover five hundred millions of treasure lost some years ago from Spanish vessels on the coast of Spain.

Conservative Leader in the House of Lords.

LONDON, January 5.—The Conservative party have definitely accepted the Duke of Marlboro as their leader in the House of Lords.

The Peabody Fleet at Madeira.

Her Majesty's steamer Monarch, with the remains of Mr. Peabody, arrived at Madeira on the 30th of December.

The Spanish Situation.

The *Times* attributes the unfortunate situation of Spanish affairs to Prim's obstinacy and infatuation, and regards a peaceable issue from the present trouble as almost impossible.

Health Improving.

The health of the Archbishop of Canterbury is improving.

The French Senate Dissatisfied.

PARIS, January 5.—The French ministerial appointments have given umbrage to the Senate, which finds itself inadequately represented. The Republicans intend agitation upon the assembling of the Corps Legislatif for the evacuation of Rome by the French troops.

Napoleon Master of the Situation.

Lord Lyons has had an interview with the Emperor, who declared himself master of the political situation.

Sessions of the Cortes Suspended.

MADRID, January 5.—The Cortes have suspended their sittings, in order to leave Serrano unfettered in treating the ministerial crisis. The ministry will probably remain in office for the present, to attend to routine business.

The Ecumenical Council.

ROME, January 5.—In the Ecumenical Council yesterday, five Bishops participated in the discussion on the Latin of the Syllabus. Cardinal Capalti has been elected Prefect of the Congregation of Studies, in place of Cardinal Von Reisach.

THE PUBLIC DEBT.

Official Statement for December.

Reduction for the Month $4,812,781 92

Decrease During Grant's Administration $76,716,306 70.

WASHINGTON, January 3, 1870.—The following is the public debt statement:

Debt bearing interest in coin	$2,107,939,150 00
Interest	48,797,083 58
Debt bearing interest in lawful money	59,547,000 00
Interest	1,129,909 00
Debt on which interest has ceased since maturity	4,149,936 64
Interest	544,906 60
Debt bearing no interest—demand and legal tender notes	356,113,098 50
Fractional currency	39,762,664 66
Certificates of gold deposited	40,170,980 00
Total	436,046,143 16
Total debt	$2,607,671,179 82
Interest	50,461,599 18
Total debt, principal and interest, including coupons due not presented for payment	$2,658,134,679 00
Amount in treasury—coin	109,159,475 96
Currency	12,773,983 61
Sinking fund in United States coin interest bonds and accrued interest thereon	22,545,927 34
Other United States coin interest bonds purchased	61,908,333 67
Total in Treasury	$ 206,387,716 60
Debt less amount in Treasury	2,448,746,963 31
Debt less amount in Treasury on 1st ultimo	2,453,559,745 23
Decrease of debt during the month	4,812,781 92
Decrease since March 1st, 1869	76,716,306 70

THE PACIFIC COAST.

The Telegraphers' Strike—Death of Judge Sanderson—Rich Gold Discoveries in British Columbia—Important Discovery of Coal Near the California and Oregon Railroad.

SAN FRANCISCO, January 5.—The telegraph operators' strike continues. There has been no interruption of business, and the management are confident there will be none. The operators are sanguine the company will be compelled to accede to their demands.

Judge Sanderson of the Supreme Court, has resigned.

Reliable intelligence from the Placer Gold diggings, in the Peace river country, state that it is expected the new diggings will prove the richest and most extensive yet discovered in British Columbia. The country is two thousand feet lower than Cariboo. The climate is mild.

An extensive vein of bituminous coal has been discovered twenty-eight miles above Chico, seven miles from the California and Oregon Railroad. The vein is thirty feet thick. The coal is free from sulphur. The discovery is regarded of great importance to northern California, and is the first of the kind made there.

CUBA.

The Junta Dispatches Another Vessel with Men, Arms and Supplies—Sailing of the Spanish Gunboats.

NEW YORK, January 5.—The *Commercial Advertiser* states that the English brig Baleol has gone to sea under the American flag, with fifty Americans and thirty Cubans, and a cargo of 107 cases of guns, 900 cases of cartridges, twenty-five cases of ammunition and 100 kegs of powder. She was chartered by the Junta, and the cargo was put aboard as for Nassau. She also took a large amount of supplies, which were placed on board secretly. She has on deck two pivot guns, placed amidships, but as she is not a fighting vessel, they are more for ornament than use. She will proceed to Cuba and effect a landing under protection of the steamer that left last week after the Anna. Thus the Cubans have at sea three armed vessels.

The thirteen Spanish gunboats that have been lying at quarantine for some past are now ready to go, and it is pretty positive will set sail to-night.

THE COUNTY AND THE CONNELLSVILLE RAILROAD COMPANY.

Decision of Chief Justice Thompson—Judgment Reversed and New Trial Awarded.

The decision of Chief Justice Thompson, of the Supreme Court, in the case of the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad Company vs. the county of Allegheny—error to the Common Pleas of Allegheny county—was received Tuesday, by Thomas J. Keenan, Esq., Prothonotary. The decision is quite lengthy, as the case was a very important and complicated one. The Chief Justice, at the outset, says: "The real question in this case is, whether the plaintiff in error—the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad Company—is bound by its contract with the county of Allegheny, to pay interest on the bonds of the latter, received by it in payment of stock subscribed by the county. The contract of the company was to pay interest equal to that falling due on the bonds for thirty years, the period of the maturity of the bonds, and this suit was brought to recover unpaid interest falling due on the 1st of January, 1858, and intermediately up to and including the 1st of January, 1867. Of course a decision of this question will not only settle the liability of the company for interest past due, but that which is by the terms of the contract to fall due. Around this main question cluster others of minor importance, which may or may not receive notice in the discussion of the main question, as the requirements of the investigation may demand."

The Chief Justice then discusses this "main question," and decides in substance that the Railroad Company is responsible for the interest on its stock up to the time of the completion of the road between Pittsburgh and Connellsville, which took place in October, 1861; and that the Marshal's sale of stock did not carry accrued unpaid interest.

The judgment obtained in the court below, by the county, was for interest up to 1869.

The opinion concludes as follows: "These views, it will be seen, establish error on part of the court in regard to the extent of the plaintiff's right to recover, and in not charging in answer to points on the subject that the contract for interest was good only to the extent we have indicated, and invalid as to the excess not avoved by the act of 12th April, 1861, authorizing the payment of interest; in other words, that the contract was invalid for the payment of interest after the completion of the road from Pittsburgh to Connellsville. If there be error in any of the assignments not specially noticed it is immaterial, because of the view we have taken of the case, and we need not trouble ourselves with it. As to the statute of limitations, and the effect of the Marshal's sale of the stock of the county in the road of the plaintiff in error, no error was committed; nor any in holding that the form of action was proper, or in refusing to arrest the judgment, but for the reasons given the judgment must be reversed. Judgment reversed and *venire de novo* awarded."

Under the above decision the amount of the county's claim will be reduced about one-half.

OPENING LETTERS.

A Pittsburgh and Philadelphia Postal Car Clerk Charged.

H. C. Burnell, a clerk on a postal car between Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, had a hearing in Philadelphia on the charge of opening letters, on Saturday, before United States Commissioner Phillips. John N. Wood was the only witness examined. He is an assistant clerk on the postal cars between Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. Wood deposed that he detected Burnell, on December 31, 1869, opening a letter, and subsequently requested a friend of his, named Alex. Hildebrand, to watch Burnell, and he saw him in the act of opening a letter while witness was at his side; defendant was prying it open with a lead pencil; when he saw that he was observed, Burnell turned around and dropped on the lounge as if overcome with liquor; he had been drinking; saw a letter which had been opened; it was addressed to the First National Bank of Clarion, Pa.; the letter was sent to its address; witness called in the conductor of the car, Mr. Young, and as on his advice; caused defendant to be arrested in Harrisburg by an officer at the depot; after we left Middletown, defendant rose and stood at his table, and took letters out of his pigeon-hole, and seemed to be trying to seal them up again; he then went to the water closet; letters were found at the defendant's table in one of the holes in the case where witness saw him put them after leaving them open.

Burnell was held in $5,000 bail for a further hearing.

STATE NEWS.

The proprietors of the *Evening Star* and *Morning Post*, of Philadelphia, dealt out on Christmas various articles to those who sell their papers. The females received hoods and shawls, and the boys gloves and scarfs.

A Cameron county paper states that two drunken men undertook to navigate a raft down the Allegheny, ran it into a dam, and one of them was carried down the icy stream three hundred yards before being rescued, when he was promptly restored. He was too full of "benzine" to swallow any water.

The gross receipts of the Catholic Fair in Titusville were $6,200, and the net proceeds will exceed $3,500, which will be applied to the convent building fund.

Tuesday afternoon a man named Frank Sweeny, formerly of Meadville, while at work at a well on the Skinner farm, which is situated on the headwaters of Bull Run, was caught between the cable and the shaft of the bull wheel and so badly crushed that he died at five o'clock Tuesday morning. The deceased leaves a wife and one child at Cambridge, Crawford county.

Rev. Father Cahill, pastor of the Catholic Church, in Jamestown, Mercer county, committed suicide on Tuesday, by shooting himself through the head with a pistol. The girl employed at his house states that the priest had obtained poison from a drug store the same day, but she took it away from him. He then drew a revolver and fired several shots at the ceiling, imagining that he saw some offensive object there. The girl remonstrated, and he threatened to shoot himself, which he proceeded to do as soon as she left the room.

The Titusville *Herald* of yesterday says that it learns from good authority that the accident at the Humphrey well, Shamburg, which resulted in the instant death of Mr. Charles A. Lawson, on Tuesday last, was not occasioned, as at first supposed, by the escape of steam from the flue pipe, but from the explosion of nitro-glycerine. Mr. Lawson, as we now understand, had just inserted a pair of gas tongs to temper them, in a box filled with water at the time. No sooner had he done this than the explosion occurred, and the unfortunate man was blown to atoms. His body was hurled into the air and severed in twain, and the mutilated pieces scattered a distance of several rods from the engine house. The engine house was entirely demolished, and the engine moved from its position towards the derrick. What strengthens the presumption of a nitro-glycerine explosion, is the fact that only a few days previous they had glycerine thawed out in the same box in which Lawson plunged the gas tongs.

Harry C. Shaffer, Chief Engineer of the Harrisburg Fire Department, died suddenly from heart disease, at his residence in that city, on Thursday morning. His wife was awakened by hearing him moan, and on raising his head he opened his eyes and fell back in her arms, dead. He was elected Chief Engineer a year ago, and served with great fidelity and efficiency.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company has recently had constructed an immense grain elevator at Philadelphia. The first car load of grain was deposited therein on Tuesday.

The inauguration of Gov. Geary will take place on Tuesday, the 18th of January next. A large delegation of firemen and members of military organizations will be present.

The citizens of Germantown, a rural district of Philadelphia, have organized a Citizens' Association for the purpose of reforming abuses in the government of Germantown, protecting the rights of the people, and inaugurating such measures as will tend to the growth and development of the place.

The Philadelphia Councils at their meeting on Friday appointed a committee to confer with the fire companies of the city relative to the purchase of their apparatus and rent of buildings. The Republicans in Councils favor a paid fire department, while the opposition are making a vigorous fight to retain the volunteer rowdy system.

The *Lancaster Express* says there is necessity for reform in the Commissioners' office of that county, and says that the office has been managed in the interest of a ring for years past. It calls for the election by the people of a County Solicitor, instead of allowing the Commissioners to appoint that officer.

There is a deficit in the Erie county treasury, but what the amount is no one seems to know. The County Treasurer, who was sent to Dixmont Hospital, abandoned the books of his office some two months ago, and the County Commissioners have made no examination of them since.

The widow of the late Charles Wetmore, of Warren, although immensely wealthy, devotes a portion of her time to making cream candy—paying for the material from her own private purse, for the benefit of the poor people of that town.

During the past year there were five thousand five hundred and eleven new buildings erected in Philadelphia. Alterations and additions would swell these figures to about seven thousand.

The office of the *Fulton Democrat*, in McConnelsburg, was entirely destroyed by fire on the morning of the 23d ult. The fire is supposed to have originated from a pile of ashes under the office. The forms were on the press, almost ready to go work, and went down with the press.

Andrew Schlayer has been elected Chief Engineer of the Harrisburg fire department.

Hiram C. McCoy has been appointed by the Governor and commissioned by the State Department Associate Judge for Butler county, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Hon. Joseph Cummins.

W. H. Sterling has been appointed and commissioned Sealer of Weights and Measures for Crawford county for a term of three years.

The barn of Wm. Stitt, Derry township, Westmoreland county, near Blairsville, was consumed by fire on Tuesday morning, the 28th ult., about three o'clock. Eleven milch cows were consumed and two threshing machines, besides a number of other farming machinery, grain, hay, &c. The loss is estimated at about $4,000. It is supposed to be the work of an incendiary.

The annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Fruit Grower's Society will convene at Lancaster on the 19th instant.

P. H. Tierman, Esq., of Oil City, has just purchased a forty thousand dollar farm on the James river, Virginia, and has thirty men already at work improving it.

Parker's Landing is at the present time about as full of gamblers as it can conveniently accommodate, and the game of "three card monte" is played in open daylight at the ferry landing or any convenient spot in the town.

An effort is now being made to form an Alumni Association of the graduates of Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pa. A temporary organization has already been made by the election of Rev. Dr. Durbin as President, and Colonel Horatio C. King, of New York city, as Secretary. The new President of the College, Rev. Dr. R. L. Dashiell, it is stated, has infused new vigor into the institution.

The *Lancaster Express*, of Monday, says: "This forenoon B. B. Gonder, of Strasburg, took from this city some twenty persons to work on the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad. Mr. Gonder has a contract on that road, near Cumberland, Maryland. At least a hundred persons offered to accompany him, showing that a great many persons are out of employment. Mr. Gonder intends taking a number more hands from this city."

Congressman Cake, of Schuylkill county, is said to own over half a million dollars worth of coal property in that county.

THE MONONGAHELA VALLEY RAILROAD.

Pittsburgh and the Southern Markets—What are our Manufacturers and Merchants Doing?

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

The people on the line of the proposed road to connect Pittsburgh with the great markets of the South, are anxious to know what aid and encouragement that city is disposed to give to this important work. It was a matter of surprise and regret that the committee appointed on this subject by your "Board of Trade" was not represented at the railroad meeting lately held at Uniontown to promote this great enterprise, so important to your city.

With proper encouragement on the part of those most interested, the people of Fayette county are ready and willing to give the right of way and subscribe stock sufficient to do the whole or great part of the grading through this State, and the people of West Virginia are evincing a spirit equally liberal and patriotic. Taylor, the least of the seven counties through which the road passes, has, it is said, pledged herself to give $20,000, and the other larger counties—Monongalia, Marion, Barbour, Randolph, Pocahontas and Greenbrier—it is believed, will be equally, if not more liberal in their contributions toward extending this great work to the "White Sulphur Springs," where it will connect with the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad, soon to be completed from Norfolk, Va., to the Ohio river at or near the mouth of Big Sandy.

The people here are anxiously waiting the return of the able and accomplished engineer, Col. Manning, who lately commenced a reconnaissance of several proposed lines, but was interrupted by the extreme inclemency of the weather.

I have just read with much interest, in your paper of this date, several interesting communications from West Virginia in reference to this road and one from W. W. Reed in favor of the enlargement of the Erie canal, which will connect this road through Pittsburgh with the lakes, which, I trust, will be accomplished simultaneously with this road. In his next, I hope Mr. Reed will give an estimate of the probable cost of the proposed enlargement and the amount heretofore expended, with the business, revenue, lockage, &c., of the present canal.

When Cincinnati and other Western cities are exerting every nerve to open communication with the rich markets of the South, ought not the great manufacturing city of Pittsburgh do something toward aiding and assisting others less interested and less able to contribute than this wealthy and prosperous city, which we are all anxious, with her aid, to make what she can and ought to be, the great central metropolis of the Union? S.

UNIONTOWN, January 3, 1870.

THEN AND NOW.

Traveling Facilities in 1842—A Recollection of Charles Dickens.

Twenty-seven years ago Harrisburg was without railroad communication. Stage coaches and packet boats were then the most available means of travel. Now Harrisburg has the Pennsylvania Central, Northern Central, Lebanon Valley, Cumberland Valley, and Schuylkill and Susquehanna railroads. In 1842 Charles Dickens, the great English novelist, visited the State Capital. The Hon. Ellis Lewis, of Philadelphia, in a letter to the Williamsport *Gazette*, speaks thus of it and its attendant circumstances:

"In the year 1842 I resided in Williamsport, Lycoming county. I had been in Philadelphia, and on arriving from that city, at Buehler's Hotel, in Harrisburg, I found quite a crowd of people in the house and surrounding it. The news was circulated that the celebrated Charles Dickens was at the hotel. Some alleged that he had gone to the Capitol to witness the proceedings of the Legislature, then in session. There was a great desire to get a sight of this distinguished man. I confess that my own desire was to get away from the crowd and to avoid participating in the eager anxiety which our citizens generally display to pay court to distinguished strangers from abroad.

Accordingly, I went immediately to the packet boat, then lying at the wharf, although its time for starting for Williamsport had not arrived by several hours. I found in the cabin of the boat my old friend Samuel R. Wood, a Quaker gentleman of Philadelphia, in company with a lady and gentleman. To these latter my friend Wood honored me by an introduction. They were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dickens, who had come on board the packet boat with the same object that brought me there—to avoid the crowd and the intended display of attention.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, January 5, 1870.

There was some indication to-day of growing ease to the local money market, in the fact of considerable inquiry for good paper. The rates charged were high, and above what strong paper will submit to, but there were transactions at rather extreme rates. There is as a matter of course a disposition among lenders to perpetuate high prices for the use of money, but it will be found a difficult task. As soon as the banks and regular discount houses are in condition to do their usual line of discounting, rates will recede as rapidly as they went up. Money in large amounts was offered to-day on Government bond collateral at nine per cent. per annum. But bonds are scarce with borrowers, and other collateral is not regarded so strong. Large amounts of money were offered on prime paper, at four to six months, at rate of twelve per cent. per annum. There were some loans made at this figure.

—Government bonds became firmer and higher to-day, owing to the purchases on account of the sinking fund. It is doubtful, however, whether the advance can long be maintained.

Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co., report the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cooke & Co., their correspondents:

	Morn.	Noon.	Close.
U. S. Bonds '81	115¾	115¾	115⅝
U. S. Bonds '62	113⅛	113⅜	113⅜
U. S. Bonds '64	112⅝	113	113⅛
U. S. Bonds '65	113	113¼	113⅝
U. S. Bonds, new, '65	111⅝	112	112⅛
U. S. Bonds '67	112⅛	112¼	112⅜
U. S. Bonds '68	112¼	112½	112⅝
10-40s	110⅛	110⅛	110¼
Gold	119⅝	119⅞	119⅞

James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

	Jan. 4.	Jan. 5.	Adv.	Dec.
Gold	119¾	119⅞	⅛	...
U. S. Bonds, 1881	115⅜	115⅝	¼	...
U. S. Bonds, 5-20s, '62	113⅛	113⅝	½	...
U. S. Bonds, 5-20s, '64	112⅜	113⅛	¾	...
U. S. Bonds, 5-20s, '65	112⅝	113⅜	¾	...
U. S. Bonds, new iss. '65	111⅝	112⅜	¾	...
U. S. Bonds, 5-20s, '67	111⅞	112⅜	½	...
U. S. Bonds, 5-20s, '68	111⅞	112⅜	½	...
U. S. Bonds, 10-40s	109⅜	110⅜	1	...
U. S. Currency 6s	109⅜	...	...	⅛

—The course of gold to-day showed no material change. There is a remarkable steadiness in it at its present status.

—The general stock market in New York to-day was more animated, and the leading stocks made several nice points upward.

The following table, made up from dispatches received at J. W. Kennedy's Stock Rooms, Apollo Building, No. 80 Fourth avenue, shows the prices of Railway Stocks, Gold, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Boards during the day:

January 5, 1870.	10 00 A. M.	11 10 A. M.	12 10 P. M.	1 30 P. M.	4 00 P. M.
New York Central	188	188¼	189	188¾	189
Erie	23⅝	23⅝	23⅝	23	
Harlem		130½		132	
Reading	93¾	94¼	94	94⅛	94
Michigan Central		117		117	
Michigan Southern	85½	85¾	85½	85⅜	85¾
Illinois Central		134		134	
Cleveland and Pittsburgh		83¾	83¾	84	84
Chicago and Northwestern	67¾	68¾	68¼	68	68⅛
Do preferred	82	82	82	82	82
Rock Island	102¾	102¾	102¾	103	103⅛
St. Paul		73¾		74¾	
St. Paul, preferred		86		86	
Toledo and Wabash		50		51	
Toledo and Wabash, pref.					
Fort Wayne	86¾	87		87¼	
Chicago and Alton		143		143	
Ohio and Mississippi		24¼		24⅛	
Western Union Telegraph		31¾			
Pacific Mail		42¼		42¼	
Adams Express		62½		62	
Wells, Fargo & Co Express		19⅝		19½	
American M. U. Express		35⅝		35⅝	
United States Express					
Merchants' Union Express					
Gold	119¾	119⅞	119⅞	120	119⅞

A comparison between yesterday's and to-day's closing quotations shows the following changes:

	Tues.	Wed.	Adv.	Dec.
N. Y. Central	188	189	1	...
Erie	23⅝	23	...	⅝
Harlem	129	132	3	...
Reading	93⅞	94	⅛	...
Mich. Central	116	117	1	...
Mich. Southern	85½	85¾	¼	...
Illinois Central	134½	134	...	½
Cleve. and Pitts	83⅞	84⅞	1	...
Chicago and North	68	68¼	¼	...
do preferred	82	82½	½	...
Rock Island	102⅝	103⅝	1	...
St. Paul	73	74¼	1¼	...
do preferred	85⅛	86⅝	1½	...
Tol. and Wabash	49⅝	51	1⅜	...
do preferred	71¼	...	...	...
Fort Wayne	86⅝	87¼	⅝	...
Chicago and Alton	143	143	...	...
Ohio and Miss	24	24⅛	⅛	...
Western U. Tel.	32	31⅝	...	⅜
Pacific Mail	41⅝	42	⅜	...
Adams Express	61	62⅝	1⅝	...
Wells, Fargo & Co.	19⅛	19⅝	...	...
American M. U. Ex.	35½	35⅝	...	...
United States Ex.	47			
Merch. U. Ex.				

—The Philadelphia *Ledger* says that it is generally known that the income law expires by limitation this year. The law as it stands requires a return of all incomes for the calendar year up to December 31, and provides that in the next succeeding March and April the tax shall be assessed and collected. No losses sustained before or after the calendar year can be allowed, nor can any income received outside of the calendar year be made amenable to the tax. Now, the income law is virtually dead as regards taxation for 1870, and will so remain unless Congress by legislation gives it new life; and yet all the canal and railroad companies paying coupons and interest due on the first day of January, 1870, are deducting the tax as required when the law was in continuance. This is clearly wrong. Those coupons and this interest are not liable to tax under any of the provisions of the existing income act, and by no rule of right or reason can the 5 per cent. tax be deducted from the amount due. Suppose Congress should not re-enact the law, can there be any question that the companies will be liable to bondholders for the amount withheld? All the companies paying interest due after the 31st of December, 1869, should act as if there was no income law, and if they withhold the tax, should not let it pass from their control to that of the Government, for the almost universal opinion is, they will have to pay the bondholders the full amount. It is no answer to say that the income accrued in the half year ending with December, and therefore may be deducted January 1, for all the rulings and decisions on that point have been constructed strictly as to the time of the *receipt* of income, as well as to the time *losses* were actually realized, or *repairs* actually made and paid.

—James W. Kennedy, Broker, No. 80 Fourth avenue, (Apollo Building,) dealer in United States Bonds, State and Municipal Securities, Railroad, Bank, Insurance and Miscellaneous Stocks. Being represented in the New York Stock Boards every day while in session, he purchases and sells on commission any stocks on the regular lists on the same terms as the New York brokers. Governments, Gold and Railway Stocks purchased for customers on the usual margin.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
WEDNESDAY EVENING, January 5, 1870.

There is not much animation in trade, but prospects seem favorable for a revival in business ere long. The country roads are still in bad condition, and money in the country is very scarce. We have little change to note in prices since our last and quote as follows the wholesale store prices, unless otherwise noted:

APPLES—The market is well supplied and dull, and prices somewhat nominal. We quote common at $2 00; medium at $2 50; prime at $3 00, and extra assorted at $3 50@3 75 ₱ barrel.

APPLE BUTTER—We quote at 70@75c ₱ gallon.

BUTTER—We quote good to prime roll at 33@35c, and common old roll at 25@28c ₱ ℔.

BEANS—Dull at $2 50@2 75 ₱ bushel for prime medium and navy.

BACON, LARD, ETC.—There is a moderate demand. We quote shoulders at 14½@15½c; rib sides at 16½c; clear sides 18½c; lard in tierces 18½c; lard in buckets 19½c ₱ ℔, and mess pork $32 ₱ bbl.

CHEESE—Market dull; sales of Western Reserve at 17½c; Hamburg 18c; Ohio Factory 18½c; Ohio Goshen at 19½c; New York Goshen at 20c; Limberger at 19½@20c, and Sweitzer at 20@22c ₱ ℔.

CRANBERRIES—We quote cultivated at $14@16 ₱ bbl, and common at $10@12 ₱ bbl.

DRIED FRUITS—We quote dried apples at 8@9c and peaches at 11@12c ₱ ℔ for prime to choice articles.

CIDER—Receipts good and market dull and prices nominal as to quality and size of barrel. We quote at $5 00@8 00 ₱ bbl.

EGGS—We quote all warranted fresh at 37@38c ₱ dozen. Preserved at 32@34c ₱ dozen.

DRESSED HOGS—We quote at $11 50@12 50 ₱ cwt, as to size and condition.

HAY—Receipts by country wagons light and market firm at $17 00@25 00 ₱ ton, as to quality. Baled hay $18 00@21 00 ₱ ton.

STRAW—Sales at $12 00@14 00 ₱ ton.

HUSKS—Sales at 3c ₱ ℔.

LIME—Sales of Cleveland lime at $2 25, and white lime at $1 50 ₱ bbl.

LARD OIL—Market firm, with sales of extra No. 1 at $1 48@1 50, and No 2 at 95c@$1 ₱ gallon.

ONIONS—Demand fair at $2 50@3 00 ₱ bbl for prime to choice.

POTATOES—Prime peachblows are in demand at 50c on the track, and 55@60c ₱ bushel, from store.

SALT—We quote by car load Allegeny brands at $1 89, and from store in a retail way at $2 00 ₱ barrel.

SEEDS—There is very little doing in seed of any kind. Clover seed sells slowly at $8 00@8 25 ₱ bushel. We quote timothy seed nominally $3 50@4 00 ₱ bushel, and flax seed at $2 10@2 20 ₱ bushel.

TOMATOES—We quote Wick's coreless diamond tomatoes at $2 35 ₱ dozen cans.

HOMINY—Demand fair at $6 50 ₱ bbl of 200 ℔s best kiln dried.

POULTRY, GAME, ETC.—The receipts are light. We quote dressed turkeys at 18c; dressed chickens at 15@16c, and geese at 10c ₱ ℔. Live chickens by the coop 50@55c ₱ pair. Venison, whole carcass, 10@12c; venison saddles, 20@25c ₱ ℔; pheasants, $1 00 ₱ pair; quails, $2 50 ₱ dozen; rabbits, 40c ₱ pair, and squirrels 20@25c ₱ pair.

FLOUR—Market quiet, with only a moderate local demand. Prices for some time have been stationary, and except for choice brands nominal. We quote good to choice red winter wheat flour at $5 50@6; choice spring wheat flour $5 25@5 50 and for common and low grades $4 75@5 25 ₱ barrel, and buckwheat flour $4@4 50 ₱ cwt. Cornmeal—prime new cornmeal $1 05 ₱ bushel, and choice kiln dried $1 10 ₱ bushel.

GRAIN—There is very little doing in grain of any kind, and for some days past there has been no particular change in prices. Wheat is in light receipt but still dull at $1 15@1 18 ₱ bushel for fair to prime red winter. New corn is in moderate request at 80@85c ₱ bushel, on the track, as to dryness. Old yellow ear or shelled (hardly any offering) would readily command $1 ₱ bushel in elevator. Rye is nominally 90c@$1 ₱ bushel as to quality. Oats on the track are in fair demand at 47@48c ₱ bushel. Barley continues dull at $1 00@1 10 ₱ bushel for spring, and $1 15@1 20 for fall. Canadian is quoted at $1 25@1 30 ₱ bushel.

WHISKY—We quote highwines at $1 00; common rectified $1 00, and proof rectified $1 05@1 10 ₱ gallon.

Groceries.

Trade since the opening of the new year has improved considerably, and we may now look for a very good business from this time forward. We have no particular change to note in any of the leading articles, and quote as follows:

COFFEE—Old Government Java, in mats 35c; Laguayra, 25c; Rio, fancy, 24c; choice, 23½c; prime, 23c; fair, 21½c; good 22c.

TEAS—Young Hyson, common to finest, 90c@$1 75; Imperial and Gunpowder do, $1 10@1 80; Japan, 80c@1 15; Oolong, 75c@1 60 for good to choice.

SYRUPS—White drips 95c@$1 00; silver drips 85c; Lovering's, 90c; fair to good 55@65c.

MOLASSES—New Orleans, choice 85c; prime 80c; Porto Rico, 60@75c.

RAW SUGARS—New Orleans, good, 13½c; prime, 14c; choice 14½c; Porto Rico, good, 13c; prime 13½c; Cuba, good, 12¼@12½c, prime, 13¼c; Demerara, 14@14¼c.

REFINED SUGARS—Hards, 16c; A, 15c; B, 14½c, Ex C, 14½c; C Yellow, 14¼c.

RICE—Carolina 9c.

VINEGAR—We quote white wine vinegar, in original packages, 75c; German wine, 25c; cider vinegar, 20c ₱ gallon.

FISH—No. 1 Mackerel, $29 50; No. 2 Mackerel, $18 50; No. 3 (large full weight) $16 00; No. 3 large half bbls, $8 37; No. 3 medium $12 00.

SPICES—Pepper, 37½c; Cloves 50c; Nutmegs, $1 50; Cassia, 75c; Ginger, 35c; Allspice, 35c.

SOAP AND CANDLES—The following are the late quotations: Proctor & Gamble's star candles, 24c for full weight; mould and dip candles 15c ₱ ℔ 15c. Babbitt's soap, 15c; Oakley's, 11c; Excelsior, 8c; Woman's Friend, 9c; Magic Wax, 8c.

LYE—Pennsylvania Salt Co.'s Lye and Potash $8 25.

INDIGO—Madras $1 20@1 30; Manilla 95c@$1 45.

BAR LEAD—From store 15c.

DROP SHOT—Per bag $3 25.

STARCH—Magnolia starch 7½c; Silver Gloss 12c; Corn starch 12½c; Satin Gloss 12c.

TAR—North Carolina $3 75@5, small and large barrels.

BROOMS—$4 00@5 75 ₱ dozen.

PITTSBURGH OIL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
THURSDAY, January 6, 1870.

The oil market yesterday was at a stand still. There was so little doing and so little disposition to operate that any correct quotations can hardly be given. Crude oil was quite dull, and prices seemingly weaker. One sale of 1,000 bbls. S. O, January, was reported at 12¾c. Considerable figuring up of accounts for December deliveries still goes on, and the market for some time will be in an unsettled condition. We are not advised of any transactions in refined. We quote January at 30¼c.

DISPATCHES.

The Western Union Telegraph branch office on Duquesne way, on account of a strike of the operators in the general office, has been closed for two days, but we understand it will be again in operation to-day. Some of the wires also of the Pacific and Atlantic are down and full dispatches cannot be given.

By Pacific and Atlantic Telegraph.

TITUSVILLE, January 5, 2:20 P. M.—Market dull and inactive; prices nominally $4@4 10.

PHILADELPHIA, January 5, 5:00 P. M.—Spot 29¾c; January 30¼c; January and to June 31c, January to March 30½c. Crude 15c. Market very quiet, with little disposition to make operations.

OIL CITY, PA., January 5.—Market quiet; nothing doing; $1 75@4 80 is about the ruling price.

NEW YORK, January 5, 1 P. M.—Refined 30c; sales 4,000 bbls, last half January and first half February, at 31½c. Crude 15½c. Market dull.

PHILADELPHIA, January 5, 11:30 A. M.—Nothing doing; spot 30c; January 30¼c bid; February and March 30¾c bid; February to June 31c; January to June 31@31¼c; March to June 31½c. Crude 15c bulk.

PITTSBURGH LIVE STOCK MARKET.

PENNSYLVANIA CENTRAL STOCK YARDS,
EAST LIBERTY,
MONDAY EVENING, January 3, 1870.

CATTLE—The run of cattle the past week has been lighter than in any week for several months past, and in consequence prices were brisk and 25@50c ₱ cwt higher on beef cattle. Stockers ruled dull all week, and they were not all sold on Saturday, a few cars remaining in the pens over Sunday awaiting a sale the present week. Prospects are favorable for a fair run this week, but up to noon to-day the receipts were light. The prices now ruling are likely to bring out cattle. We quote good extra steers, of 1,200 to 1,600 ℔s, $7 50@8 50; decent to fair do, 1,100 to 1,200 ℔s, $6 50@7 25; common mixed lots of 800 to 1,000 ℔s at $5 50@6 00, and stock steers, of 800 to 900, at $4 50@5 50. The sales for the past week, by weight, as shown by the scale books kept by Washington Lowrie, aggregate 985 head, against 1,285 head last week.

HOGS—Like cattle, the run of hogs the past week has been less than for a long time past, and fewer wanted than at any time this season. There has been hogs in the pens for ten days, and some tail ends of lots for a still longer time, waiting for buyers to take them. The markets east are so full of hogs that there is no inducement for buyers here to buy and ship east. There was, however, on Saturday and to-day a little better feeling in real good Philadelphia hogs, but York hogs are seemingly no sale at anything like prices that will let western men out on them. We quote extra Philadelphia hogs at $10 50@10 75; fair to good Philadelphia hogs at $10 25@10 50; good to choice York hogs at $9 37@9 50; decent to fair York hogs at $9 12@9 25; rough and common hogs at $8 25@9 00.

The sales of hogs for the past week, by weight, as shown by the scale books kept by John G. Imhoff, Weighmaster, were as follows:

	Head.
Monday, December 27	616
Tuesday, December 28	1,069
Wednesday, December 29	1,392
Thursday, December 30	1,279
Friday, December 31	688
Saturday, January 1, 1870	348
Total for week	5,392
Week ending December 25	8,787

SHEEP—The market during the past week has been brisk and all sold. Prices ruled 25@50c higher at the close of the week than at the opening. During the week Pidcock and Erisman bought and shipped 10,170 head, a larger amount than any firm has heretofore purchased and shipped in any week since the yards opened. A fair run is looked for the present week, and if such should be the case, prices will again decline as rapidly as they went up. The quality of the sheep in market the past week has been good. We quote:

Extra sheep of 100@110 ℔s at	6 25@7 00
Good to choice sheep of 85 to 90 ℔s	$5 50@5 75
Medium sheep of 75 to 80 ℔s	$3 50@4 25
Common sheep of 70 to 75 ℔s	$2 25@3 50

Low grades at $1 00@2 00 ₱ head.

On the 28th ultimo, Mr. Joseph B. Huff, of Wilkinsburg, one of the most prominent operators in stock in the Central Yards, and so well known East and West, thought it not good to live alone, and so at the Union Depot Hotel, on the above date, there was a brilliant wedding—Mr. Huff to Miss Lizzie Henry, of Mansfield, Allegheny county. Everybody knows Huff, but everybody does not know what a handsome and accomplished young lady he has succeeded in wedding. There was also, on the same evening, another marriage, viz: our handsome friend T. J. Murphy, of Newark, N. J., (so well known to stock operators as the efficient clerk in the principal office of the yards) to the handsome Miss Julia G. Carbis, of East Liberty. So they go.

LARGE HOGS.

A correspondent writing from Monroe, Butler county, Ohio, gives a challenge to the world to produce like weights in the same number of hogs. The number was 537 head, raised within two miles of Monroe, and the average gross weight per head 540 ℔s, and 10 head of choice that averaged 763 ℔s ₱ head. These hogs are only 22 months old. The average weight of each lot was as follows:

40 head	516 ℔s	45 head	536 ℔s
40 head	504 ℔s	80 head	574 ℔s
20 head	501 ℔s	77 head	517 ℔s
42 head	517 ℔s	75 head	524 ℔s
68 head	513 ℔s		
60 head	490 ℔s	10 head	763 ℔s

And to show further that this stock of hogs, says the writer (A. McC.), will fatten at any age he gives the average weight of two lots of March pigs fattened when eleven months old, viz: 30 head averaged 360 ℔s each; 30 head averaged 394 ℔s each. The ten extra hogs weighed separate were: 832, 935, 676, 700, 755, 723, 830, 715, 735, 723. This stock of hogs is called big China & Poland. If any of your readers can beat this, says the writer, we would like to hear from them.

SALES.

The following are the sales of cattle, hogs and sheep reported, with prices, for the past week:

CATTLE.

Seller.	Buyer.	No.	Weight.	Price.
Holmes, L & G.	Gillett & Co.	2	2,740	$7 25
Holmes, L & G.	Briggs	17	20,280	6 00
Holmes, L & G.	Briggs	18	20,730	6 25
Holmes, L & G.	Clark	21	23,500	5 50
Holmes, L & G.	Clark	25	19,080	5 65
Holmes, L & G.	Briggs	2	2,910	5 75
Holmes, L & G.	Akers & B.	19	19,080	6 40
Holmes, L & G.	Cole	4	1,750	5 50
Holmes, L & G.	Cole	21	19,410	5 30
Holmes, L & G.	Cole	18	17,610	5 30
Holmes, L & G.	Sides	2	1,810	5 75
Holmes, L & G.	Hartsell	1	990	5 80
Holmes, L & G.	E Young	18	19,660	6 75
Holmes, L & G.	Kettering	14	15,870	7 25
Holmes, L & G.	Kettering	5	4,600	4 75
Holmes, L & G.	Moses	6	6,180	6 55
Holmes, L & G.	Kleinens	3	3,540	7 00
Holmes, L & G.	Clifford	4	3,700	6 00
Holmes, L & G.	Clifford	2	2,330	6 00
Holmes, L & G.	Clifford	1	1,095	4 50
Holmes, L & G.	Clifford	4	3,980	6 00
Holmes, L & G.	Clifford	10	9,610	5 50
Holmes, L & G.	Crawford	20	19,910	6 00
Holmes, L & G.	Davis	2	4,070	9 40
Holmes, L & G.	Kelly	1	1,150	5 50
Holmes, L & G.	Kelly	18	18,580	6 25
Holmes, L & G.	James Aull	33	42,120	8 29
Holmes, L & G.	Miller & M	33	41,300	8 50
Holmes, L & G.	Miller & M	14	22,330	9 12
Holmes, L & G.	Clifford	2	2,100	4 25
Holmes, L & G.	Clifford	16	14,470	5 25
Holmes, L & G.	E Davis	21	18,280	5 35
Holmes, L & G.	E Davis	16	16,760	6 37
Holmes, L & G.	E Davis	3	2,860	5 00
Holmes, L & G.	Lawshe	3	2,790	5 50
Holmes, L & G.	E Davis	22	18,410	5 00
Holmes, L & G.	Kelly	40	36,570	5 37
Smith & Blue	Moss	18	22,150	6 87
Smith & Blue	Keller & Smith	15	15,800	6 25
Smith & Blue	H Goldstine	3	2,980	5 62
Smith & Blue	W Kelly	4	3,310	5 25
Sold by.	**Sold for.**	**No.**	**Weight.**	**Price.**
Hazlewood & B.	Krauss & Hass	5	5,000	$5 75
Hazlewood & B.	R O Campbell	2	2,290	6 00
Hazlewood & B.	R O Campbell	2	3,630	7 00
Hazlewood & B.	W Magruder	18	16,580	5 37
Hazlewood & B.	W Magruder	3 (B)	3,380	4 00
Hazlewood & B.	Guthrie & Clark	3	2,250	5 75
Hazlewood & B.	W Magruder	19	18,310	6 25
Hazlewood & B.	W Wilson	2	2,830	6 75
Hazlewood & B.	Trauman & Co.	9	13,040	6 12
Hedges & T.	J R Bender	20	19,850	5 87
Hedges & T.	J R Bender	18	20,590	6 12
Hedges & T.	J R Bender	40	34,570	5 55
Hedges & T.	J M Tipton	20	18,630	6 00
Hedges & T.	Huff & K	14	13,800	4 50
Hedges & T.	Huff & K	10	9,930	4 50
Hedges & T.	Huff & K	19	15,170	5 12
Hedges & T.	Huff & K	2	1,810	6 25
Hedges & T.	Huff & K	3	2,880	5 60
Hedges & T.	Huff & K	4	6,140	6 75

HOGS.

Seller.	Buyer.	No.	Weight.	Price.
Holmes, L & G.	W Newport	216	49,820	9 50
Holmes, L & G.	Pidcock	223	48,730	9 45
Holmes, L & G.	Gilchrist	15	2,500	8 90
Holmes, L & G.	E Smith	108	20,810	9 50
Holmes, L & G.	W Newport	20	4,410	9 50
Holmes, L & G.	W Newport	31	6,470	9 65
Holmes, L & G.	W Newport	117	23,880	9 60
Holmes, L & G.	W Hedges	100	20,800	9 75
Holmes, L & G.	Rothchild	30	7,250	10 50
Holmes, L & G.	Rothchild	30	8,290	10 50
Holmes, L & G.	Rothchild	18	4,190	9 95
Holmes, L & G.	Voetter & B.	25	6,420	10 50
Holmes, L & G.	Voetter & B.	91	20,800	10 75
Holmes, L & G.	Wilhelm	43	13,300	9 50
Holmes, L & G.	Pidcock	25	5,500	9 50
Holmes, L & G.	Pidcock	112	17,350	9 50
Holmes, L & G.	Voetter & B.	13	3,550	10 25
Holmes, L & G.	Voetter & B.	25	6,138	10 25
Holmes, L & G.	Imhoff	43	10,130	10 25
Holmes, L & G.	Imhoff	58	12,610	10 25
Orr & W.	W Newport	41	8,220	9 25
Orr & W.	Gilchrist & Co.	81	24,790	10 50
Orr & W.	J W Hepler	85	24,860	10 00
Orr & W.	W Newport	31	7,450	9 00
Orr & W.	Imhoff & Co.	80	22,640	10 25
Orr & W.	Voetter & B.	91	23,900	10 25
Orr & W.	W Newport	22	6,710	8 75
Orr & W.	Gilchrist & Co.	80	21,820	10 00
Orr & W.	F Kaler	13	3,750	9 37
Orr & W.	F Kaler	18	4,520	9 75
Orr & W.	W Newport	45	9,850	9 25
Orr & W.	Voetter & B.	170	50,280	10 50
Orr & W.	Voetter & B.	42	11,550	10 75
Orr & W.	Voetter & B.	48	13,070	10 75
Sold by.	**Sold for.**	**No.**	**Weight.**	**Price.**
Hedges & T.	J Rastral	66	14,430	$10 00
Hedges & T.	J Rastral	32	7,370	8 85
Hedges & T.	J Rastral	12	3,050	10 50
Hedges & T.	John McKee	68	15,140	9 60
Hedges & T.	John McKee	41	10,530	10 37
Hedges & T.	T B Donnelly	105	18,640	8 50
Hedges & T.	T B Donnelly	71	15,420	9 75
Hedges & T.	J Crawford	68	14,000	9 25
Hedges & T.	G W Critfield	57	14,800	10 00
Hedges & T.	G W Critfield	44	11,880	8 85
Hedges & T.	Thos Harrold	71	17,350	10 00
Hedges & T.	Thos Harrold	54	12,350	9 10
Hedges & T.	Head & Graham	58	10,310	9 75
Hedges & T.	Head & Graham	53	12,500	10 50
Hedges & T.	R T Groves	43	13,560	10 75
Hedges & T.	R T Groves	50	11,440	10 50
Hedges & T.	R T Groves	117	25,140	9 75
Hedges & T.	L Rosecrans	23	4,310	9 87
Hedges & T.	J H Woolen	47	13,230	10 50
Hedges & T.	J H Woolen	105	26,600	9 75
Hedges & T.	J C Ullery	12	3,810	8 75
Hazlewood & B.	Guthrie & Clark	39	9,980	10 40
Hazlewood & B.	Guthrie & Clark	128	23,610	9 00
Hazlewood & B.	Geo Steniger	43	12,460	10 37
Bought by.	**From whom.**	**No.**	**Weight.**	**Price.**
Voetter & B.	Orr & Williams	91	32,900	$10 25
Voetter & B.	Orr & Williams	190	47,320	10 50
Voetter & B.	Holmes, L & Co.	90	20,460	10 75
Voetter & B.	Holmes, L & Co.	25	6,220	10 50
Voetter & B.	Orr & Williams	42	11,550	10 50
Voetter & B.	Orr & Williams	48	13,010	10 75
Voetter & B.	Holmes, L & Co.	25	6,150	10 20
Voetter & B.	Holmes, L & Co.	13	3,380	10 25
Voetter & B.	J McBeth	125	25,350	10 25
Imhoff & Co.	C K Ward	93	22,800	10 05
Imhoff & Co.	C K Ward	101	24,380	10 00
Imhoff & Co.	Hedges & T.	92	22,690	10 25
Imhoff & Co.	Orr & Williams	90	22,840	10 25
Imhoff & Co.	Hedges & T.	194	46,440	10 00
Imhoff & Co.	T Robison	214	45,440	10 75
Imhoff & Co.	Hedges & T.	43	13,560	10 75
Imhoff & Co.	Hedges & T.	50	11,440	10 50
Imhoff & Co.	Hedges & T.	52	12,560	10 50
Imhoff & Co.	C K Ward	40	10,920	10 40
Imhoff & Co.	Holmes, L & Co.	101	22,810	10 25
Gilchrist & Co.		75	21,330	10 50
Gilchrist & Co.		10	2,460	10 50
Gilchrist & Co.		84	21,790	10 50
Gilchrist & Co.		47	14,440	10 00
Gilchrist & Co.		40	10,520	10 37
Gilchrist & Co.		70	15,270	9 75
Gilchrist & Co.		8	2,320	10 62
Gilchrist & Co.		96	24,880	10 75
Gilchrist & Co.		80	21,820	10 00
Gilchrist & Co.		3	1,130	10 75
Gilchrist & Co.		42	12,250	10 45
Gilchrist & Co.		46	12,960	10 50
Gilchrist & Co.		22	5,400	10 50
Gilchrist & Co.		132	41,650	10 55
Gilchrist & Co.		257	68,890	10 30

SHEEP.

Seller.	Buyer.	No.	Weight.	Price.
Holmes, L & G.	Pidcock	216	19,310	3 90
Holmes, L & G.	Pidcock	234	15,270	3 90
Holmes, L & G.	Pidcock	32	1,300	5 50
Holmes, L & G.	Pidcock	152	14,680	5 15
Holmes, L & G.	Pidcock	229	17,130	3 90
Holmes, L & G.	Pidcock	381	30,830	4 40
Holmes, L & G.	Pidcock	152	12,510	4 25
Holmes, L & G.	Pidcock	208	16,670	4 65
Holmes, L & G.	Dietrick	160	11,380	4 32
Holmes, L & G.	Pidcock	138	10,620	3 50
Holmes, L & G.	Davis	143	11,330	4 50
Holmes, L & G.	Pidcock	80	5,750	4 00
Smith & Blue	Pidcock & Co.	200	16,730	4 50
Smith & Blue	Pidcock & Co.	151	13,160	4 75
Smith & Blue	Pidcock & Co.	190	16,910	4 75
Smith & Blue	Pidcock & Co.	408	32,740	4 80
Smith & Blue	Pidcock & Co.	152	12,520	4 50
Smith & Blue	Pidcock & Co.	380	31,010	4 37
Smith & Blue	Pidcock & Co.	202	15,320	4 50
Smith & Blue	Pidcock & Co.	216	16,070	4 50
Smith & Blue	Pidcock & Co.	188	12,370	4 75
Smith & Blue	Pidcock & Co.	177	16,950	6 37
Smith & Blue	Pidcock & Co.	183	17,160	6 12
Smith & Blue	Pidcock & Co.	179	16,490	5 50
Smith & Blue	Pidcock & Co.	202	15,140	4 75
Smith & Blue	Pidcock & Co.	202	16,160	4 70
Smith & Blue	Pidcock & Co.	101	8,140	4 10
Smith & Blue	J Lloyd	178	17,650	6 00
Smith & Blue	E H Davis	161	17,330	7 12
Sold by.	**Sold for.**	**No.**	**Weight.**	**Price.**
Hedges & T.	Jarrett & Bro	178	15,800	$5 25
Hedges & T.	A Vanfossan	116	9,620	5 50
Hedges & T.	A Vanfossan	149	11,030	5 00
Hedges & T.	A Vanfossan	59	₱ head	$1 50
Hedges & T.	L Rosecrans	163	12,680	4 15
Hazlewood & B.	M Carter	220	16,860	3 50
Hazlewood & B.	W Y Greer	191	14,290	3 35
Hazlewood & B.	Shoemaker & H	201	13,830	3 37
Hazlewood & B.	T J Hedderson	110	9,320	4 25
Hazlewood & B.	J E Danniels	187	15,250	3 70
Hazlewood & B.	D B Taylor	100	7,380	4 12
Hazlewood & B.	M Young	181	17,110	5 87
Hazlewood & B.	M Young	423	32,570	4 87
Bought by.	**From whom.**	**No.**	**Weight.**	**Price.**
Pidcock & E.	Orr & Williams	90	7,150	$3 50
Pidcock & E.	Orr & Williams	58	4,310	4 50
Pidcock & E.	Smith & B.	200	16,730	4 50
Pidcock & E.	Smith & B.	190	16,910	4 75
Pidcock & E.	Smith & B.	151	13,160	4 75
Pidcock & E.	Smith & B.	408	32,740	4 80
Pidcock & E.	Smith & B.	380	31,010	4 37
Pidcock & E.	Smith & B.	202	15,320	4 50
Pidcock & E.	Smith & B.	177	16,930	6 37
Pidcock & E.	Smith & B.	183	17,160	6 12
Pidcock & E.	Smith & B.	179	16,490	5 50
Pidcock & E.	Smith & B.	202	15,140	4 75
Pidcock & E.	Smith & B.	202	16,190	4 70
Pidcock & E.	Smith & B.	104	8,140	4 10
Pidcock & E.	Holmes, L & Co.	198	16,740	4 75
Pidcock & E.	Holmes, L & Co.	152	12,510	4 25
Pidcock & E.	Holmes, L & Co.	357	29,330	3 75
Pidcock & E.	Holmes, L & Co.	206	13,710	3 25
Pidcock & E.	Holmes, L & Co.	216	18,340	3 90
Pidcock & E.	Holmes, L & Co.	211	15,370	3 90
Pidcock & E.	Holmes, L & Co.	12	1,300	5 50
Pidcock & E.	Holmes, L & Co.	192	16,660	5 15
Pidcock & E.	Holmes, L & Co.	229	17,130	3 90
Pidcock & E.	Holmes L & Co.	383	30,820	4 40
Pidcock & E.	Holmes, L & Co.	138	10,630	3 50
Pidcock & E.	Holmes L & Co.	195	15,370	4 25
Pidcock & E.	Holmes L & Co.	208	16,670	4 65
Pidcock & E.	Holmes, L & Co.	160	11,380	4 32
Pidcock & E.	Holmes, L & Co.	80	5,757	4 00
Pidcock & E.	Hedges & T.	178	15,800	4 50
Pidcock & E.	Hedges & T.	116	9,629	5 50
Pidcock & E.	Hedges & T.	163	12,580	4 15
Pidcock & E.	Hedges & T.	73	7,480	6 00
Pidcock & E.	Hedges & T.	140	11,030	5 00
Pidcock & E.	Schiltz	212	14,760	3 85
Pidcock & E.	Schiltz	225	15,540	4 00
Pidcock & E.	E H Davis	143	11,330	4 65
Pidcock & E.	E H Davis	442	29,680	3 70
Pidcock & E.	E H Davis	222	19,380	5 75
Pidcock & E.	E H Davis	115	8,690	4 37
Pidcock & E.	E H Davis	203	16,910	5 30
Pidcock & E.	Perritt & McP.	402	32,040	4 75
Pidcock & E.	Perritt & McP.	425	35,860	5 62
Pidcock & E.	Dan Crowel	298	22,640	4 50
Pidcock & E.	W S Atkinson	194	11,920	5 50
Pidcock & E.	H L Long	100	7,300	4 25
Pidcock & E.	Jno C Lloyd	104	8,280	4 75
Pidcock & E.	C R Search	220	15,390	4 50
Pidcock & E.	J Miller & Co.	384	31,720	5 87
Pidcock & E.	L Larker	61	4,110	3 50

ALLEGHENY LIVE STOCK MARKET.

TUESDAY, January 4, 1870.

CATTLE.—The run of Cattle this week has been light, aggregating about 700 head against 800 head last week, and 900 head the previous week. The offerings generally were very inferior in quality, and the few choice were quickly picked up at full prices, and if there had been three times the offerings of anything near choice, they would have been taken at once at top prices. Some six car loads of the best cattle on the market were bought for the New York market, and this left our butchers rather short, and they had to do the best they could out of the balance. Nothwithstanding the inferior quality of the offerings, the market was strong on account of the light supply. Prime to choice steers sold at $7 25@7 75 per cwt., with some extra as high as $8 00 per cwt., and fair to good at $6 00@7 00 per cwt., other grades ranged from $4 50@5 50 per cwt. Bulls seemed in great demand as there was one lot of 41 head, averaging 1,330 ℔, sold at 5 50 per cwt., and another lot of 29 head at $5 00@7 00 per cwt. There were but few cattle in the yards from the surrounding counties in this State.

HOGS.—The receipts were light, and demand good, but sales were only made in a retail way at from $10 00@11 75 per hundred weight, for fair to very choice. The market was cleaned out long before the close.

SHEEP.—The run of sheep this week was light, only about 800 head, against 1,500 head last week. The supply was not adequate to supply the demand, and the general aggregate of the offerings was inferior in quality. The few good to prime offered were quickly picked up at $4 50@5 50 per head. Very inferior grades brought from $1 50 to $2 25 per head, and common $2 50@3 75 per head. The pens were cleaned out.

Sheep at Philadelphia.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Commercial.

HESTONVILLE, PA., January 3, 1870.

Forty-three hundred sheep arrived at Park yard. Good sold from 5½ to 7c. Market brisk. All sold. J. L. A.

PROVISIONS.

Messrs. Oliver & Hart, of Milwaukee, in their circular of the 28th inst., report the provision trade for the past week as quite active, with large sales, stimulated by the marked decline, which was occasioned by the closeness of money, the persistency on the part of Eastern and Southern buyers in keeping out of the market and the large receipts of hogs at all the packing points. To generalize a little, we may add that the packing business, the past few years, has yielded enormous profits, and packers and drovers started into the season with prestige and large means; believing in a short crop, they forced prices up so rapidly that the trade generally were without stock and could not supply themselves except at famine prices. The community of interest (so to speak) for an advance was entirely with western drovers and packers—thus the interest of the trade was divided and all the interests of the eastern and southern buyers were to *depress* prices, for the current values ruling, precluded the possibility of profit to the trade. They kept aloof and allowed stocks to accumulate, and have been rewarded by a large depreciation. This time last year not only eastern and southern buyers were holders, and English buyers, who, to supply their markets, were perhaps the largest purchasers and the community of interest was general, not split up, as it was some days ago, and thus this large class of operators stood, as it were, between the producer and consumer, and in a great measure *made values*—yet the last purchasers of the old crop were heavy losers. To a limited extent, these buyers have been supplying themselves with stocks at the decline. This is the most redeeming feature we can see for the maintenance of present prices.

We do not believe that they are sufficiently interested to desire an advance, nor do we believe in any permanent advance until a more general distribution of stock takes place. The late decline has had the effect to shake the confidence of even the strongest believers in higher values, and by many is thought a most righteous one, and it is to be hoped will not be without its improvement in the future. At times, independent of the law of supply and demand, *opinions* make prices, and they are often forced either up or down far beyond all reason. This has been the case for a good portion of the packing season, but when once this great law was applied and the supply was larger than the demand, prices necessarily gave way. With present prices for hogs and products there is a fair manufacturing profit to the packer, and our packers have been willing to meet the demand, hence the activity in our market. In a majority of other markets the transactions have been only or mainly for pork and lard on speculation, and our quotations have been as low as any in the country. Our stock of provisions is now light, and packers do not offer, except when they can replace with hogs, the greater number of them believing in very much better prices.

	Live Hogs.	Dressed.
Receipts	999	11,153
Total packing to date	51,420	37,644
Same time last year	43,401	37,478

Hop Crop of Wisconsin.

From the Madison (Wis.) *Journal* of the 30th ult., we glean some figures in regard to the amount of the hop crop in that State in 1869. The figures were taken from the railroad books at Milwaukee, and are as near correct as good intentions can make them. As the Wisconsin hop crop of 1868 was fully 85,000 bales, it will be seen that the crop of 1869 falls short fully 60,000 bales, but with the vast amount of acreage turned under last spring, neglected yards during the summer, the amount left unpicked last fall, and the miserable yield in Sauk county and other places in Wisconsin east of Sauk county, the crop of 1869 has fully come up to the expectations of those who kept themselves posted. The shipments out of Milwaukee to various points may be set down a trifle astray in some cases, but the receipts there are correct and answer the purpose. A few lots may have gone out of the State by other routes, but these would be fully balanced by receipts from Iowa and Minnesota, but we will put it at 500 bales. A careful estimate indicates that 4,000 bales of the shipments from Milwaukee were 1868 hops, and to say there were 5,000 bales of "old and new" hops held by growers and others, aside from brewers, in Wisconsin at this date, would be a liberal estimate, though there may be 1,000 bales in brewers' hands. The railroad figures were as follows:

	Bales.
Receipts in Milwaukee since September 1st, 1869, from Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota	18,842
Shipments from Wisconsin *via* Northwestern Railroad	10,259
Shipments from Milwaukee *via* Detroit and Milwaukee Railroad	6,849
Left in Milwaukee for use	700
Total shipments from Milwaukee	18,142
Remaining in Wisconsin	5,000
Remaining in Wisconsin brewers' hands	1,000
Total	24,142
Deduct as growth of 1868	5,500
	17,642
Left Wisconsin by other routes	500
Total crop of 1869	18,142

From this it appears that there were, in round numbers, less than 19,000 bales of hops raised in Wisconsin in 1869, good, poor and worthless.

Estimates made this week, by New York parties, say that there are not over 20,000 bales in New York fit to export. It is well known that Western commission houses hold nothing, and we now have in the United States not to exceed 28,000 or 30,000 bales of decent 1869 hops with which to supply the home and foreign demand. That Western brewers and dealers have been sending considerable orders to New York lately is well known, and that brewers everywhere have been buying as close to immediate wants as possible, is equally true, and the result will be "closer sailing" within sixty days than many consumers imagine to-day.

New York Cattle Market.

NEW YORK, December 31.—Live Stock Market—Arrivals to-day 980 cattle, 3,000 sheep and 550 hogs. Trade was brisk all round, and prices better. Beeves have advanced ¼ to ½c, and were early closed out. A drove of 200 Illinois 6¾ cwt. at 14½c; a lot of 7¾ cwt. at 14¾@16½c, and 86 fair 6¾ cwt. Illinois cattle at 15½c.

Sheep advanced ¼c, the 81@85 pounds Ohio droves selling at 5@5¾c, nothing really fine was on sale the pens were early cleared; a car 80 pounds Ohio selling at 6¾c.

Hogs quiet at 12@13¼c for city, and 11¾@12¼c for western dressed; prime live hogs are worth 10¼c.

NEW YORK, January 3.—Live stock—A total of 4,750 beeves coming after the people are tired of poultry, and when sheep run light, enables holders to advance prices nearly ½c ₱ ℔. Some rough bulls sold down to 10½c; thin Texans 12@13c; roughish Illinois cattle 14@15c; good steers at 16@16½c; prime at 17c, and a few extras at 18@18½c. So many thin state cows and oxen, and somewhat free offerings of very rough Canada and rising 600 Texans, keep the average at 15c. The market was very active, and all sold quickly. There were 2,700 on sale to-day, 1,830 of them at Communipaw and 960 at One Hundredth street. A drove of 200 Texans of 5¾ cwt. sold at 12½c; 130 Illinois steers of 6¾ cwt. at 14@16c; 100 head of 7½ cwt. at 15@17c, and 25 extra Southern Ohio grades of 10½ cwt. at 17½@18½c. The market closes favoring shippers.

Sheep—total 20,160; selling briskly at ¼c advance for fair to good stock. Arrivals 5,700 to day; prices 5c for every thin 68 pound state sheep; 5¼c for 80 pounds Ohio; 6c for same weight state: 7c for 2 cars 90 pounds Canadas; 7¾c for car 94 pound Ohio weighed; prime 110 pound sheep are worth 8c.

With 8,700 hogs, the lightest supply since last February, the market was not firm at 10@10¼c alive; 13@13¼c for city, and 11¾@12c for Chicago dressed. The provision market is heavy. A car of 140 pound Indiana live hogs brought 10¼c. Arrivals to-day 29 cars.

NEW YORK, January 5.—Live stock—arrivals of cattle 850, supply insufficient, quality inferior and prices higher, varying from 12 to 13c for poorest, to 14@16c for common to fair, and 17@17½c for good to choice; all sold early.

Sheep—arrivals 4,350; market very active at the advanced rates of 5¾@8c. Some thin 70-℔ Ohio sheep brought 5¼c, and a car of 93-℔ sheep 7¼c.

All the 1,650 hogs of to-day are for slaughterers. They are higher, live worth 10@10¼c; city dressed 13¼@13½c; western 12¾c.

PITTSBURGH DRUG MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
THURSDAY, January 6, 1870.

The following are the current prices:

Acid.		
Acetic	℔	25 @ 28
Citric	℔	1 00 @ 1 05
Oxalic	℔	38 @ 40
Tartaric	℔	80 @ 85
Alcohol	gall	2 30 @ 2 40
Aloes.		
Cape	℔	28 @ 30
Socot	℔	1 05 @ 1 10
Am. Carb	℔	28 @ 30
—Aqua	℔	10½ @ 14
Annotta	℔	80 @ 90
Ashes Pot	℔	8½ @ 9½
—Soda	℔	4½ @ 5
Pal. Copa	℔	1 00 @ 1 05
Bay Rum	gal	4 00 @ 5 00
Bark.		
Cassia	℔	72 @ 76
Cinch r'd	℔	1 90 @ 2 00
" Pale	℔	90 @ 1 05
" Com	℔	60 @ 70
Black Lead.		
American	℔	5 @ 6
East Ind	℔	13 @ 16
German	℔	7 @ 9
Blue Mass	℔	60 @ 62
Blue Vitr	℔	15½ @ 17
Borax ref	℔	40 @ 42
Brims roll	℔	5½ @ 6
—Flor Sul	℔	7½ @ 8½
Calomel A	℔	1 06 @ 1 10
—English	℔	1 60 @ 1 65
Camp ref	℔	93 @ 98
Canthar's	℔	2 60 @ 2 80
Cham. Ger	℔	40 @ 50
—Roman	℔	55 @ 65
Chlorof'm	℔	1 48 @ 1 50
Cloves	℔	47 @ 49
Cochineal	℔	1 30 @ 1 35
Con lye	case	8 00 @ 8 25
Copp'ras	℔	2½ @ 3
Cream Tar	℔	48 @ 51
Cubebs	℔	44 @ 48
Cudbear	℔	25 @ 45
Emery En	℔	13 @ 15
Et Nit sps	℔	48 @ 50
—Sulph	℔	88 @ 92
Ext Logw	℔	16½ @ 17½
—Liq Cala	℔	48 @ 52
—Italian	℔	45 @ 50
—Sicily	℔	25 @ 28
Fustic chi	℔	3¾ @ 4½
Galls Alep	℔	47 @ 52
Gum.		
Arabic sts	℔	52 @ 58
" White	℔	85 @ 1 00
Myrrh T'k	℔	65 @ 70
Shellac	℔	50 @ 64
Trag s'rts	℔	55 @ 65
" Flake	℔	1 45 @ 1 65
Hoffm's A	℔	48 @ 50
Indigo Ma	℔	1 50 @ 1 60
—Span fl't	℔	1 65 @ 1 70
Iodine res	℔	6 90 @ 7 00
Junip Ber	℔	6 @ 7
Log Chipd	℔	3 @ 4
Mace	℔	1 95 @ 2 00
Madder	℔	23 @ 24
Magne cal	℔	75 @ 1 50
—Carb	℔	50 @ 55
Manna SF	℔	1 65 @ 1 70
Morph sul	℔	10 00 @ 10 20
Nutm No 1	℔	1 65 @ 1 70
Oil.		
Bergamot	℔	8 00 @ 8 75
—Castor	gal	2 80 @ 2 90
—Cinnam	℔	4 50 @ 4 75
—Cloves	℔	3 60 @ 3 80
Oil.		
Cod livr	gal	2 25 @ 2 80
Lemon	℔	5 35 @ 5 75
Lard c	gal	1 05 @ 1 45
—Cincin	gal	1 52 @ 1 58
Linseed	gal	96 @ 1 02
Neats f	gal	1 50 @ 1 75
Olive	gal	2 60 @ 3 00
—quarts	doz	7 50 @ 15 00
—pints	doz	4 40 @ 4 60
Origan	℔	80 @ 1 00
Pepper't	℔	5 00 @ 6 25
Rosemary	℔	1 50 @ 3 25
Sassafras	℔	1 20 @ 1 30
Sperm	gal	2 65 @ 2 80
Tanners	gal	1 00 @ 1 15
Whale	gal	1 30 @ 1 40
Winteg'n	℔	5 25 @ 5 75
Opium Ty	℔	14 20 @ 14 40
Phosphos	℔	1 25 @ 1 40
Pl Paris	bbl	5 00 @ 5 50
Potass.		
Bi chrom	℔	24 @ 25
Chlorate	℔	55 @ 82
Iodide	℔	5 20 @ 5 40
Prus Yel	℔	46 @ 48
" Red	℔	1 05 @ 1 10
Putty	℔	5½ @ 6½
Quin sulp	oz	2 50 @ 2 60
Rosin	bbl	4 00 @ 6 00
Root.		
Gentian	℔	24 @ 26
Gingr E I	℔	27 @ 29
" Jamca	℔	33 @ 35
Ipecac	℔	3 25 @ 3 50
Jalap	℔	2 40 @ 2 50
Liquerice	℔	18 @ 20
Rhub E I	℔	2 75 @ 3 00
Sars Hon	℔	60 @ 62
Senega	℔	65 @ 70
Valeri En	℔	60 @ 63
" Germ	℔	40 @ 50
Sal Ammo	℔	22 @ 24
—Epsom	℔	5 @ 5½
—Soda	℔	3¾ @
Seed.		
Canary	℔	10½ @ 11½
Hemp	℔	8 @ 9
Cardamn	℔	4 75 @ 4 90
Mustard	℔	17 @ 19
Senna Al	℔	46 @ 50
" E In	℔	25 @ 30
Soda.		
Bi Carb	℔	7 @ 8
Caustic	℔	8 @ 9
Soap Cast	℔	18 @ 21
—Cast wh	℔	28 @ 31
Starch	℔	8 @ 8½
Sugar L'd	℔	42 @ 44
Sumac Sic	℔	8 @ 10
Terra Jap	℔	8 @ 10
Turp sps	gal	60 @ 68
Varnish.		
Copal	gal	2 00 @ 4 00
Japan	gal	1 30 @ 1 83
Damar	gal	3 00 @ 3 25
Ven Red	℔	4 @ 4½

WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE PIG IRON AND BLOOM MARKET.

OFFICE OF PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
SATURDAY, January 8, 1870.

The curtailed business and temporary suspension of operations to-day of our city iron mills, generally restricts business in raw irons to an exceedingly small compass. Sales during the last week were scarcely of sufficient range to indicate prices.

The aggregate of crude irons consumed here during the year closing to-day is perhaps unprecedented in the history of the city. Fully four hundred thousand tons of pig and blooms irons have been converted into a multiplicity of forms and variety of products, for which our iron workers are so noted.

Receipts of standard forge irons continue in increasing volume from the West, but from the East there is a very perceptible falling off.

Hanging Rock charcoal foundry irons continue to come forward freely, and we learn of sales on private terms, supposed to have been at a further material concession on rates current at date of our last report:

We quote the following sales:

Sales of Bituminous Coal-Smelted from Lake Superior Ore.

100 tons open grey forge to arrive	$37 50—6 mos.
100 tons medium grey forge from yard	37 00—5 mos.
200 tons grey forge from yard	36 00—30 days
100 tons close grey forge	36 00—4 mos.
50 tons grey forge	36 00—4 mos.
5 tons grey neutral	37 50—4 mos.

Anthracite.

100 tons neutral No. 3 forge to arrive	39 00—4 mos.
50 tons No. 3 neutral	38 00—6 mos.
30 tons No. 3 neutral	38 00—6 mos.
50 tons extra No. 1 foundry	42 00—4 mos.
20 tons extra No. 1 foundry	42 50—4 mos.
30 tons extra No. 1 foundry	40 00—4 mos.
30 tons extra No. 1 foundry	40 50—4 mos.

Charcoal.

200 tons Penn forge	$45 00—6 mos.
20 tons Hanging Rock No. 2 foundry	44 00—4 mos.
45 tons Hanging Rock No. 2 foundry	44 00—5 mos.
10 tons extra No. 1 soft	48 00—4 mos.

Receipts of Pig Iron Per Erie Canal for the Week Ending Dec. 31.

Canalboats.	Consignee.	Tons.
Monitor	Nimick & Co.	50
Antonette	Nimick & Co.	65
Cairo	Nimick & Co.	65
J. H. Bridge	Nimick & Co.	60
Geo. R. Tuttle	Nimick & Co.	66
Total		301

IRON AND NAILS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
SATURDAY, January 8, 1870.

IRON.

Common Bar sizes	3⅝@ 4⅜
Horse Shoe	5¼
Heavy Band	4⅝@ 5⅛
Hoop and Light Band	5 @10
Round and Square	3⅞@ 7¾
Oval	4⅝@ 5
Half Oval and Half Round	4⅝@ 5¼
Boiler Iron	6 @ 9
Tank Iron	5¾

All sheets over 28 in. wide, ½c ₱ ℔ extra.

Flat Rails, punched and countersunk	4⅝@ 5
T. Rail, 12, 16, 20, 28 and 40 ℔s to the yard	4 @ 5
Nail Rods	8½@10
Coal Screen Iron	5⅝@ 6⅜

	American.	Charc'l.	Juniata.
Sheet Iron, 10 to 17	5¾	6⅞	9
" 18 to 24	5¾	7¼	9¼
" 25 to 26	6	7½	9¾
" 27	6¼	7¾	10

All sheets over 28 in. wide, ½c ₱ ℔ extra.

NAILS.

10d to 60d Nails, Fencing and Brads	$4 50
8d and 9d	4 75
6d and 7d	5 00
4d and 5d	5 25
3d	6 00
2d	7 25
3d fine	7 25
2d fine	8 25
3d lining	9 00
Clinch	6 25
Cut Spikes	4 75
Cut Boat Spikes	5 25

Barrel Nails—⅞ in, $7 50; 1 in, $7 00, 1⅛ in, $6 25; 1¼ in, $6 00; 1⅜ in, $5 50; 1½ in, $5 25.

Tobacco Nails—50c above common.

Finishing Nails—$1 25 above common 4d to 40d.

Finishing Nails—1¼, $8 50; 1, $9 50.

ABATEMENT.

Iron—¼c ₱ ℔ off on lots of 10 tons or upwards.

Nails—12½c ₱ keg off when ordered in 100 keg lots.

TERMS.

Note of acceptance at sixty days, with exchange on New York, or a discount of 3 per cent. for cash, if remitted on receipt of invoice. Payment to be made in New York Exchange, United States Treasury Notes or their equivalent. No discount on bills of less amount than $50.

LUMBER MARKET.

OFFICE OF PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
SATURDAY, January 8, 1870.

There is a fair demand from yards with good stocks on hand.

We quote from yards as follows:

UNPLANED LUMBER.

Clear, ₱ M	$55 00
First Common	38 00
Second Common	28 00
Third Common	22 00
Sheeting	18 00
Hemlock Joists and Scantling	18 00

PLANED LUMBER.

First Common, ₱ M	$60 00
Clear	70 00
Flooring Boards	33 00
Partition Boards	40 00
Shelving on both sides	33 00
Shelving on one side	31 00
Flow and drop weatherboarding	35 00
Moulded weatherboarding	35 00
Rabbited weatherboarding	35 00
Half-inch patent planed	25 00
Half-inch patent unplaned	20 00
Twelve inch vertical, with strips	31 00
Oak and Yellow Pine flooring boards	45 00

SHINGLES AND LATH.

No. 1, 18-inch, sawed	$ 7 25
No. 2, 18-inch, sawed	6 00
No. 1, 16-inch, shaved	6 00
No. 1, 16-inch, sawed	6 00
Lath	4 50

CORDAGE MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
SATURDAY, January 8, 1870.

The following are the card rates:

Manilla rope	24½
do do 12 thread	25
do do 6 and 9 thread	25½
do hawser laid oil well boring rope	24½
do do tarred	24
do lath twine, tarred	24
do hay, stave and leather twine	25
Sisal rope	22
do lath twine, tarred	21½
do hay, stave and leather twine	23
American hackled hemp tarred rope	19
do do hemp white rope	20
Russia hemp tarred rope	
Jute rope	13½@15
Cotton rope	60@75
Houseline, marline and hambroline	23@25
Spun yarn	18@22
Hemp lath twine, tarred	18
Hemp sash and bell cord	28@35
American hemp packing	14@20
Russia do do	
Italian do do	
Jute	15
Patent self-lubricating packing	50
First quality oakum	11
American Navy Oakum	10½
do do do best	10
Caulking cotton	19@22

PITTSBURGH HIDE AND LEATHER MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
FRIDAY, January 7, 1870.

The following are the prices ruling in this market, reported from actual sales by Geo. H. Anderson & Co., wholesale dealers:

LEATHER.

Oak sole, light and middle	40a42c	Oak harness best city	44a46c
Oak sole, heavy	38a41c	Oak harness country	41a44c
Oak sole Spanish	41a43c	Bridle fair ₱ doz	$60a65
Oak, slaughter in rough	37a39c	Band leather ₱ ℔	44a46c
Red sole B A mid	32a34c	Hand leather ₱ ℔	40a42c
Red sole R A heavy	32a34c	Waxed calf	$1 20a1 55
Red sole Orinoco	31a33c	Wax kip	50a85c
Shoe skirting	44a45c	Waxed upper ₱ ft	25a28c
Saddler's skirting	47a48c	No. 1 pad skins ₱ doz	$5 50a6 00
Black bridle ₱ doz	$55a60		

HIDES.

Green salted all weights	11 a11½c	Green salt calf	17a18 c
Green butchers' hides, cow & steer	8 a9 c	Green butchers' do.	12a00 c
Green salt kip	14 a15 c	Dry Flint hides nominal	23a24 c

OIL AND TALLOW.

Pure Labrador Straits ₱ gal	$1 05a1 10	Bank Oil	85a90c
Straits best	90a95c	Tallow	10a11c

PITTSBURGH GLASS MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
SATURDAY, January 8, 1870.

The following are the card prices of window glass, adopted by the manufacturers of Pittsburgh on September 30th:

PER BOX OF FIFTY FEET.

	Single strength. 2d quality.	Single strength. 1st quality.	Double Strength.
6 by 8 to 8 by 10	$3 00	$4 00	$6 50
8 by 11 to 10 by 15	3 50	4 50	7 00
11 by 14 to 12 by 18	4 00	5 00	8 00
14 by 16 to 16 by 24		5 50	9 50
18 by 22 to 18 by 30		6 50	12 00
20 by 28 to 24 by 30		7 00	13 00
26 by 28 to 24 by 36		7 50	14 00
26 by 34 to 26 by 40		8 50	16 00
28 by 38 to 28 by 44		9 00	17 00
28 by 46 to 30 by 48		10 50	17 50
30 by 50 to 32 by 52			18 50
32 by 54 to 34 by 56			20 00
34 by 58 to 34 by 60			22 50
46 by 60 to 40 by 60			25 00

All orders received after this date, will be charged at these prices, subject to discount of 15 ₱ cent.

CRACKER MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
SATURDAY, January 8, 1870.

There continues a large demand for crackers, and Marvin's card rates are given as follows:

Boston Crackers	9½	Milk Biscuit	10½
Wine "	10½	Ginger Snaps	15
Soda "	8½	Extra Pilot	8¾
Oyster "	8	Almond Nuts	16
Water "	7½	Fruit Biscuits	13½
Butter "	8½	Mixed Cakes	16
Sugar "	10½	Spiced Jumbles	16
Dyspepsia "	10½	Sugar Jumbles	16
Lemon Biscuit	13½	Ginger Cakes	14
Cream Crackers	28	Pilot Bread	7
Pounded biscuit	13½	Pearl Wafers	10
Cracker Meal	8	Farina crackers	9
Graham Boston	10	Graham Wine	10½
Graham Water	10		

PITTSBURGH DRY GOODS MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
FRIDAY, January 7, 1860.

The current quotations are as follows:

SHEETINGS.

Penn Mills	15½c	Juniata B	14 c
Anchor A	15½c	Anchor C	14 c
Eagle Extra	15½c	Duquesne	13½c
Conewago	15 c	Glencoe	13½c
Idaho	15 c	Pennsylvania	12½c
Nonatook	15 c	Magnolia	12½c
Pittsburgh Family	14½c	Allegheny	12 c
Walnut Creek	14½c	White Fawn	11 c

PRINTS.

Merrimack D	12½c	Mourning	11½c
Merrimack W	14½c	American	11½c
Spragues	12½c	Orientals	11½c
Dunnells	12½c	Gloucester	11½c
Conestoga	12 c	Amoskeag	10½c
Lancaster	11½c	Troy	7½c
Wamsutta	9½c	Allen Pinks	11 c
Shirtings	12½c		

DELAINES.

Pacific	20c	Hamilton	20c
Manchester	20c	Armures	21c

GINGHAMS.

Lancaster	17	Waumee	15
Gloucester	15	Laurel G	12½
Glasgow	16		

TICKS.

Conestoga P. M. B	33c
Gold Medal	26c
Conestoga C. T	24c
Conestoga C. C. A	23½c
Kellyville F	16c

WHITE LEAD, PUTTY, ETC.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
FRIDAY, January 7, 1870.

The following are the current quotations:

Strictly pure in lots of 2,000 ℔ in oil	12 c
Strictly pure in lots of 500 ℔ in oil	12½c
Fancy brands from	7 @11 c
White lead dry (strictly pure) in kegs	11½c
Orange Mineral	13½@14 c
Pure Red Lead	11 @11½c
Painters' Red Lead	9½@10 c
Litharge	10½@11 c
Selected Zinc, ground in oil	11 c
Vieille Montagne & Co.'s French Zinc	17 c
Blue Paint, ground in oil	8 @13 c
Putty	4½ @5½c

BROOM MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
FRIDAY, January 7, 1870.

We quote the manufacturers' prices, as follows:

Shaker No. 1, ₱ dozen	$ 6 00
Shaker " 2, "	5 00
Hurl " 1, "	5 50
Hurl " 2, "	4 50
Braid " 1, "	5 00
Braid " 2, "	4 00
Round Hurl	4 00
Plain Hurl	3 50
Western common	4 00
Broom corn, prime, ₱ ton	$400
Broom corn, common, ₱ ton	$300@350
Broom handles, ₱ 1,000	20@25
Swallow brooms, ₱ dozen	6 00

TIN PLATES, ETC.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
FRIDAY, January 7, 1870.

The prices of tin plates according to brands are as follows:

I C, charcoal	$11 50@11 75
I C, coke	10 50@10 75
Roofing plates	11 00@11 25
Bar Tin, ₱ ℔	43c
Straits, ₱ ℔	46c
Sheet Zinc	13c
Slab Spelter	11c
Ingot Copper	25c
Antimony	22c

COPPER MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
FRIDAY, January 7, 1870.

The following are the current rates in this market:

	₱ ℔ net cash.
Braziers' Coppers	33c
Bolt Coppers	33c
Flared and tapered sheets	35c
Circles under 84 inches diam	35c
Circles 84 inches and over diam	38c
Sheathing Copper by case	32c
Sheathing Copper, less than case	33c
Copper bottoms	37c

STEEL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
FRIDAY, January 7, 1870.

We quote as follows the prices for various kinds of steel:

Best refined cast steel, ordinary sizes	18c
Machinery steel, ⅝ to 2 inches	13c
Cast spring steel	13c
German spring steel	10c
Blister steel	10 @15c
Cast plow steel	13c
Best refined German plow steel	11c
Puddled do do	9c

TOBACCO MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
SATURDAY, January 8, 1870.

Although it is difficult to give the tobacco market in a satisfactory manner we herewith annex the ruling jobbers' prices, manufacturers of course giving a discount for large lots.

Spun Roll	$ 70@ 75	Diamond Twist	90@1 00
Flounders	66@ 72	Rough & Ready	95@1 10
Tens	65@ 70	Scotch Snuff	75
Navy	65@ 70	Copenh'n Snuff	85@ 90
Louisville Navy	75@ 78	Cut and Dry	28@ 32
Richmond do	70@ 72	Wheeling stogies	$11

New York Finance and Trade.

Gold Closed at 120.

NEW YORK, January 5—P. M.

TENNESSEE BONDHOLDERS' COMMITTEE.

Messrs. A. D. Williams, Thomas and Reuben Manley have been appointed a committee by the bondholders of the State of Tennessee in this city, to go to Nashville and urge such legislation as will protect the interest of said bondholders.

MEETING OF THE EXPRESS COMPANIES.

An informal meeting of representatives of the different Express companies was held to-day, with a view to the reapportionment of routes. Nothing definite was agreed upon.

MONEY.

Money a shade easier at 7 ₱ cent. on call loans.

FAILURE.

The failure of Messrs. Clark & West, one of the oldest houses in the cloth jobbing trade, is announced. Liabilities $300,000.

STERLING

Steady at 108¼@108⅝.

GOLD

Firmer, opening at 119⅞ and closing at 120. Carrying rate 1-32 ₱ cent. per day. Clearances $37,000,000.

GOVERNMENTS

A shade firmer. Coupons '81, 115¾@115⅞; do '62, 113⅛@114; do '64, 113⅛@113⅜; do '65, 113⅜@113½; do new, 112⅛@112¼; do '67, 112⅜@112½; do '68, 112⅜@112½; 10-40s, 110⅛@111; Pacifics, 109⅞@109¾. The Government accepted two million of the bonds offered to-day at 111 75-100 to 112 70-100.

STATE BONDS

Generally lower. Missouris 85; old Tennessees 52½; new do 46; old Virginias 49, new do 55; old North Carolinas 41; new 28¼.

STOCKS

Higher, and though not up to the highest point of the day, closed firm. Canton 49; Cumberland 24¾; Western Union Telegraph 31⅝; Quicksilver 15½; Mariposa 5¼; do preferred 15⅛; Adams Express 62; Wells-Fargo 19¼; American 35¾; United States 48¾; Pacific Mail 42¼; New York Central 88¾; Erie 23; do preferred 42; Harlem 132; Hudson 83¾; Reading 94⅝; Michigan Central 117; Lake Shore 85⅞; Illinois Central 132; Pittsburgh 84⅞; Northwestern 68¾; do preferred 82¾; Rock Island 103⅝; St. Paul 73⅞; do preferred 86⅞; Wabash 51; do preferred 71⅛; Fort Wayne 87⅛; Terre Haute 25; do preferred 53; Chicago and Alton 143; do preferred 143½; Ohio and Mississippi 24⅛; Columbus, Chicago and Indiana Central 17.

MINING SHARES

Dull. Boston prices higher—Calumet 60; Hecla 76; Quincy 23½; Franklin 9.

Sub-Treasury balance $83,381,287, including $4,546,852 in currency.

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

CHICAGO MARKET.

CHICAGO, January 5, 1870.

FLOUR—Steady and in fair demand for low, medium and good grades of spring superfine and spring extras; not sufficient business done to establish quotations.

WHEAT—Dull and depressed; demand for No. 2 spring exclusively speculative, to fill short sales, at 82c for No 1, and 74½@76c for No 2, closing dull at 74c; optional sales were at 75⅛@76½c, seller last half January; 76@77¼c seller February and buyer January; in the afternoon the market was generally dull at 75@75⅛c for No 2.

CORN—Dull, heavy and 2c lower; sales of No 2 at 69@70c; at the close there was no demand, and the nominal figures were 68@68½c; sales for future were 69½@70c seller month; 71c buyer do, and 70@70½c seller February; nothing doing in the afternoon.

OATS—Dull at 40@40½c for No 2 cash, and 39¾@40¼c seller month; 40½@41c buyer do; 40@40¼c seller February.

RYE—Dull and lower at 68@70c for No 2.

BARLEY—Dull but a shade firmer for No 2, at about 82@85c.

HIGHWINES—Dull but prices firm at 91@92c for wood and iron bound respectively.

BEEF—Quiet and 15@25c lower, at $4 00@4 80 for common to good cows; $5 00@5 90 for fair to medium; $6 37½@6 60 for good shipping steers; at the close prices tended downward.

HOGS—Decidedly dull at a decline of 10@15c; sales at $8 00@9 15 for common to fair; $9 40@9 75 for good to choice.

PROVISIONS—Market unsettled at the opening; sales were at $27, cash; for future delivery very little was done, and prices were nearly nominal at $27 75@28 00, seller February; $28 00@28 25, seller March, $28 25@28 50, buyer February. Green meats dull with very few offerings; quotations nominal at 9¼@9½c for shoulders; 11¾@12c for rough sides, and 13½@14c for hams. Dry salted meats in better demand but lower; sales of shoulders at 10c, rough sides at 12¼c; short rib middles 13@13¼c, loose, and 13¾c boxed.

New York Market.

NEW YORK, January 5.—Cotton heavy and lower; sales 2,000 bales at 25¼c for middling uplands. Flour—receipts 10,450 bbls; flour 5@10c lower, the decline chiefly upon medium and good grades; sales 5,900 bbls at $4 65@4 90 for superfine state and western; $5 30@6 20 for extra state, $5 15@6 25 for extra western; $5 90@6 40 for white wheat extra; $5 40@6 25 for round hoop Ohio; $5 75@6 50 for extra St. Louis; $6 50@8 50 for good to choice do, closing quiet; also 5,000 bbls extra state, deliverable all month at $5 40. Rye flour quiet; sales 150 bbls at $4 50@5 50. Whisky a shade firmer; sales 35 bbls western at 99½c@$1 free. Receipts of wheat 3,600 bush; wheat 1c lower, with a moderate export and milling demand; sales 78,000 bush at $1 11 for No 3 spring; $1 15 for No 2 and 3 do mixed; $1 21@1 22 for No 2 do; $1 30@1 34 for winter do and amber western; $1 38 for choice amber Tennessee. Rye quiet. Barley dull. Receipts of corn—600 bush; corn heavy and declining; sales 23,000 bush at 92½c for new mixed western, 98c@$1 for new yellow southern. Receipts of oats 6,172 bush; oats firm for prime, and dull and declining for other kinds; sales 29,000 bushels at 62@63c for western; 65@66c for choice white do; 66@66½c for state. Groceries dull. Hops firm. Petroleum firm. Leather in fair request. Wool steady; sales 250,000 ℔s at 41@45c for domestic fleece; 42@45c for pulled. Coal—domestic quiet at $5 50@6 50 for Lackawanna; $6 50@7 50 for Pictou ₱ ton by cargo. Linseed oil dull at 90@92c in casks. Pork lower; sales 400 bbls at $28 25@28 50 for new mess; $28 75 for old do; $24@25 for prime; $26@28 for prime mess; also, 1,500 bbls new mess, seller January and February at $28 00@28 25; 500 do, seller six months, $27 50. Beef quiet. Beef hams quiet and steady. Cut meats heavy; sales 75 pkgs at 11@12c for shoulders, and 14@16c for hams. Middlings heavy; sales 100 bxs Cumberland cut at 14@14½c, and 400 boxes short ribbed, deliverable in Chicago, at 13¾c. Dressed hogs quiet at 11½@12½c for Western. Lard heavy; sales 350 tierces at 15¾@16½c for steam, and 17@18½c for kettle rendered; also, 1,000 tierces steam, seller February, at 17@17½c. Butter steady at 18@30c for Ohio. Cheese steady. Copper, iron and nails quiet and unchanged. Freights to Liverpool without material change; shipments per steamer 40,000 bush wheat at 4d, and 500 bbls flour at 1s 3d.

LATEST—Flour closed steady for low grades, and dull and heavy for medium and good grades. Wheat 1c lower with a very moderate export and milling inquiry. Rye dull at $1 00@1 04 for western. Oats very heavy at 62c for common western, and firm at 65c for choice white. Corn nominal at $1 10 for old, and 90@95c for new mixed western. Pork heavy; sales 750 bbls mess, seller February, at $28 00. Beef in moderate request and unchanged. Cut meats nominal. Bacon in moderate request and unchanged. Lard heavy, sales 500 ℔s prime steam, seller February, at 16¾c, and 500 do seller March, at 17c. Eggs steady at 41@44c for fresh, and 33c for limed.

Cleveland Market.

CLEVELAND, January 5.—Flour market dull. Buckwheat flour—market steady and demand good at $7 50@8 25. Wheat dull, heavy and 2@3c lower; small sales No 1 red at $1 12, and No 2 do at $1 07. Corn—no transactions and the market is nominal for car lots; selling in a small way at 98c for old No 1 mixed; 95c for No 1 do; new dull and nominal. Oats dull and nominal. Rye dull and nominal. Barley dull and inactive; held at 9 c@$1 as the nominal rates. Petroleum quiet but firm; refined held at 26@26½c in large lots, 28@29c in small lots; crude $5 50 ₱ bbl.

Albany Cattle Market.

ALBANY, January 3.—Receipts of beeves only 2,958 head during the week. The market is little if any changed. The bulk of the offerings were light steers, old cows and rough, heavy oxen. The highest price realized was 10½c for four head of very fine Ohio steers selected from a drove, averaging 1,510 ℔s, and 13 head of choice Canada steers at 9½c, averaging 1,786 ℔s. With these exceptions no sales are worthy of special mention. The range was 5½@8½c. Sheep and lambs dull; most of the sales were for the supply of the New York market, range 4½@7¼c. Hogs—business mainly confined to dressed; the only sales of live were 2 loads of light Michigan at 9¼c, receipts small and pens empty.

Philadelphia Cattle Market.

PHILADELPHIA, January 3.—Beeves dull and rather lower; sales 1,800 extra Pennsylvania and Western steers at $9 50@10 00; fair to good $7 00@9 00; common $5 00@6 50 ₱ cwt, gross. Sheep in fair demand at an advance; sales 8,000 at 7@9c ₱ ℔ gross. Hogs dull and lower; sales 3,700 head at $14 00@14 75 ₱ cwt, net.

Cambridge Cattle Market.

CAMBRIDGE, MASS., January 4.—Beef cattle—receipts 549; prices advanced a half cent; supply light. Sheep—light. Sheep and lambs advanced ½@1c.

EXTRA INDUCEMENTS.

PREMIUMS FOR SINGLE SUBSCRIBERS!

In order that all our new subscribers to the WEEKLY COMMERCIAL may share alike in the inducements we offer, we have made arrangements to furnish each single subscriber, at two dollars a year, with a valuable picture. The COMMERCIAL alone is fully worth the subscription price, but we are persuaded to offer this extra inducement in order that our circulation may be more rapidly extended. We have been at great cost in procuring these pictures, and the subscription price of our Weekly will scarcely cover the outlay. Every single new subscriber, therefore, who sends us two dollars previous to April 1, 1870, will receive one of the following four pictures, the subscriber taking his choice:

I.---THE STRAW YARD.

The Straw Yard is copied from J. F. Herring's celebrated painting. It is a picture that interests at the first glance. Herring's animals are drawn from the human point of action; his brutes have not inaptly been termed "four legged humanity." The Straw Yard is one of his best efforts, felicitous in composition, lively in details, displaying an appreciation of nature seldom found in the treatment of kindred subjects. Standing stolidly, with fetlocks partially covered with draggled, damp straw, munching carelessly at the straw lying before them in the open bin, and occupying a central position are two horses, whose very attitude suggests repose. The snow weighted limb extending over them has sheltered them from the sun's rays in the hot August days. The fowl darting in and out between the horses hoofs in quest of a chance grain or grub, like the swine at their heels, are equally indifferent to danger. Association; familiarity in this case breeds contempt. The ducks turn their bills under their wings in calm security; the pigs bury their snouts deep under the dank straw in their eagerness to secure the vegetables flung down for their special benefit, attracting by their selfish grunts those of their family in the distance, which are no ways slow in responding to the signal of a common conflict. In the distance a group of horses seek the shelter of a shed, from under which they contemplate the scene complacently, snuffing the frosty air and varying the monotony of the winter day by fondling each other. The lithograph is 21x26 inches, and is equally suitable for the drawing-room or library.

II.---SHEARING TIME.

The conception of this picture is so simple as to appeal at once to the sympathies of the beholder. Its perspective, like its principal figures, is true to nature. "Shearing Time" is copied from one of the ablest paintings produced by A. Berendsen, a famous artist. "Shearing Time" represents the real poetry of lowly life. The expression of the half shorn ram lying between the shearers is almost human. The expression and attitude of the shearer, as with pipe in his mouth he directs the attention of his faithful shepherd dog to the disposition of the next subject to evade the trying ordeal, is a study in itself. If the dog permits the sheep to stray after such a look as that cast upon him by his master, he cannot plead ignorance of his master's will, betrayed in every lineament of his stern countenance. The highlands in the slumbrous distance, the friendly offices of the lass at the gate, the occupation of the figures in the foreground, all go to make up a picture reminding the observer of a sweet melody, or a pensive poem. Size, 21x26 inches. A mate for the preceding picture.

III.--HALT IN THE WOOD.

Copied from F. Gauermann, whose works display a technical strength, an imagination competent to high creative art, and a knowledge of naturalistic truth which has placed him in the front rank of modern painters. The "Halt in the Wood" is full of ease, grace and vitality. Its personages are true to nature. The thirsty hunter quaffing leisurely from the limpid stream can well afford to halt in the shade, leaving his gamekeepers to look after the horses laden with the fruits of the chase. The tired steeds in their turn accept the respite thankfully, while the gamekeepers, now that the excitement of the hunt is over, contemplate with pardonable pride the antlers of the deer, which are the crowning trophies of the day, commenting between the whiffs of their pipes upon the conduct of the dogs, and their good fortune. The figures are picturesquely grouped, exhibiting the grace and freedom of action common to the life of a sportsman. A picture to please the multitude, with special charms for lovers of the chase. Size 21 by 26 inches.

IV.--GAMEKEEPERS' RETURN.

This is also copied from F. Gauermann. Like the preceding picture, "The Gamekeeper's Return" displays the ready and quick hand of a master. Full of spirit, singularly clear, broad and effective in style, it displays a delicacy of refinement in execution and sentiment seldom equalled. In his *genre*, or home paintings, Gauermann appears to be as much at home as in the difficult task of depicting the passions and sentiment of animal life. We say "home" painting, because "The Gamekeeper's Return" awakens all those sentiments, feelings and ideas which have their origin and growth under the family roof, and in social training. The Gamekeeper is the central figure. Ere he lays his gun out of his hand, he directs his wife's attention to the game beneath which the table beside him fairly groans. Hares, rabbits, pheasants, quails, each in turn are held up to the admiring gaze of his wife, who in her eagerness to pass upon the merits of the same, pauses in her domestic occupation, extending a critical hand. The gamekeeper's son flings the weight of game from his shoulders; the antlers of the dead deer stretch across the floor, and a setter, in his eagerness to quench his thirst, laps from a dish in a corner. Men and dogs are privileged characters; the fruits of the chase absorbs the attention of the tidy housekeeper. Size 21x26 inches, a companion-piece to the preceding picture.

Pittsburgh, December 1, 1869.

IN Friday's issue of the COMMERCIAL we published a special dispatch from Wheeling giving the particulars of the shooting of W. J. McNash by Miss Lizzie Betham, the latter alleging she had been seduced by the former under promise of marriage. The wounded man is lying very low at his boarding house, but not so ill as to forego imitating the example set him in New York a few days ago. The Wheeling *Intelligencer* of Saturday gives the second act in this drama as follows: "Yesterday about noon, W. J. McNash and Miss Lizzie Melany were married, under circumstances somewhat resembling the Richardson-McFarland affair in New York not long since. We hear that Rev. A. J. Lyda, of Chapline street M. E. Church, officiated on the occasion Friday, and that the services were peculiarly solemn. Only a few persons were persent. It will be remembered that the groom was shot the day previous by a woman to whom, it is alleged, he had plighted his troth."

—McNash died on Sunday from the effects of his wound. Miss Betham was shortly afterwards rearrested, having been at liberty on bail, and committed to jail for trial.

The Mayor of Brooklyn in his message states that the indebtedness of the city is $27,277,425, and complains that the Justices of the Peace keep the fines for their own use, instead of returning them to the city, and that the Prospect Park Commissioners drew during the past year $600,000 in excess of the limits allowed by law.

REAL ESTATE REGISTER.—The "Pittsburgh Real Estate Register" for January, 1870, has been placed upon our table by the enterprising publishers, Messrs. Croft & Phillips, real estate agents and brokers, No. 139 Fourth avenue. With the present issue the publishers commence the monthly publication of the "Register," their past experience in issuing it three times a year warranting them in making it a monthly. To sellers as well as buyers of real estate this work of fifty-six pages is invaluable, giving as it does a variety and amount of information that months' of correspondence would fail to furnish. Those desiring to invest in real estate should by all means procure a copy of the "Register," which they may do by calling on Messrs. Croft & Phillips, or by sending for it by mail, enclosing stamp for postage.

MAN MISSING.—The attention of our readers is directed to the card offering a large reward for any information as to the whereabouts of Mr. Samuel Sickman, of California, Washington county, who mysteriously disappeared in this city on Saturday evening, December 11th. As he was temperate and regular in his habits, his family and friends fear he has been foully dealt with. He may have gone into the country, and our readers are directed to the description of him in another column.

Do not Neglect

A slight cough, it may end in consumption. C. F. Galton's Cough Balsam will relieve you. TTHS*

MARRIED:

MORTON—PLANT—On Wednesday evening, December **29, 1869**, at the residence of R. D. Moore, Esq., Sharon, Pa., by Rev. W. C. Falconer, JAMES A. MORTON, of Philadelphia, to SADIE S. PLANT, of Sharon. No cards.

MURPHY—CARBIS—On Tuesday evening, December **28th, 1869**, at St. Peters and Pauls R. C. Church, by the Rev. J. M. Bierl, Mr. T. J. MURPHY, formerly of Newark, N. J., and Miss JULIA G. CARBIS, of Pittsburgh, Pa.

MINNEMEYER—GOSLING—On Wednesday evening, December **29, 1869**, at St. Peters Church, Grant street, by the Rev. Mr. Roberts, ED. G. MINNEMEYER and JOSIE H. GOSLING, daughter of Jas. Gosling, Esq., both of Pittsburgh.

EBERHART—HEMINGRAY—On Thursday evening, December **30, 1869**, at the residence of the bride's parents, by Rev. W. H. Locke, WM. M. EBERHART, JR., and Miss JENNIE HEMINGRAY, both of this city.

MOORHOUSE—LEITHEAD—On Tuesday, December **21st, 1869**, at Canterbury, Delaware, by the Rev. Samuel Edwards, of Philadelphia, JOHN L. MOORHOUSE of this city, to Mrs. ANNIE C. LEITHEAD, daughter of Doctor Wm. L. Lafferty, Canterbury, Delaware.

WINSTON—MILLER—On Wednesday evening, January **5th, 1870**, at the residence of the bride's parents, by Rev. F. A. Noble, VIRGINIA B., daughter of Alex. H. Miller, to P. HENRY WINSTON, of Windsor, N. C.

[Baltimore Sun and Gazette please copy.]

DIED.

ANDERSON—On Thursday evening, December **30th**, at **9** o'clock, LIBBIE, only daughter of Edward F. and Mary H. Anderson, aged four years and ten months.

TYLER—December **30, 1869**, at **6½** P. M., MABELLA E., beloved wife of R. G. Tyler, in the sixty-second year of her age.

KENNEDY—Sabbath morning, January **2d**, at quarter past **1** o'clock, SARAH, wife of James Kennedy, in the fortieth year of her age.

CHAPLIN—At her residence, Franklin City, Pa., December **26**, Mrs. SARAH J. CHAPLIN, daughter of E. W. Hays, Esq.

ALRICH—On Friday, December **31, 1869**, at the residence of his son-in-law, Calvin Ballard, Esq., in Winterset, Iowa, Rev. WM. P. ALRICH, D. D., formerly of Washington, Pa., in the seventy-third year of his age.

JOHNSTON—This morning, (January **3, 1870**,) at twenty minutes past five, BESSIE, youngest daughter of J. S. and Sadie M. Johnston, aged five months.

HOWE—On Saturday morning, January **1st, 1870**, in the twenty-fourth year of his age, H. MARSHALL HOWE.

RUSH—Wednesday morning, January **5th, 1870**, at **1** o'clock, Mrs. CLARISSA F., wife of MARKER RUSH, aged thirty-nine years.

PUBLIC SALE OF REAL ESTATE.—By order of the Orphans' Court of Washington county, Pa., the undersigned will offer at public sale, on the premises, on THURSDAY, January 27th, 1870, at 1 o'clock P. M., the farm lately belonging to James Giffin, dec'd., situated in Cecil township, in said county, adjoining lands of Samuel McPherson, Esq., McDowell Park, Benjamin Hickman and others. The improvements are a good Brick Dwelling House containing six rooms and a cellar, Tenant House, Barn, Good Stabling, and other necessary out-buildings. Said farm contains

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY ACRES,

more or less, has sufficient timber, is well watered, of strong limestone soil, under a high state of cultivation, within a few rods of mill and school, convenient to churches, situated on the Pittsburgh and Washington turnpike, four miles from Canonsburg, and fourteen from Pittsburgh, and one and one-fourth miles from the Chartiers Valley Railroad.

Altogether, it is one of the most desirable farms in Washington county.

Terms made known on day of sale.

J. S. ELLIOTT,
J. G. DICKSON,
Executors.

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 1870.

TERMS:

One copy, per year $2 00
In clubs of twenty, per year 1 50
One copy gratis to the getter-up of the club.

1869.

To look before and after belongs to man alone among the inhabitants of the earth, and his exercise of the peculiar power is limited only by his intelligence and his courage. Hence a portion of the interest which, in thoughtful minds, attaches to the recognized landmarks of time, whether natural as constituted by the revolution of the heavenly bodies, or civil as instituted by man. Nature places no distinctive mark on the first of January; in itself it is like any other day; but as the beginning of a new year, it is invested, in the thought of men, with much of the interest of the year just gone and with something of the interest of the year which is to come. Memory and hope combine to give it significance, and to assign it a place in the background of recollection amidst the labors and conflicts that await us through the year upon which we enter to-day.

Looking beyond ourselves and our immediate personal concerns, and reviewing the time since January the first, 1869, the prevailing impression produced by the retrospect must, we suppose, suggest cheering anticipations of increased human welfare in the future. In China, now brought so near us, some slight tendency to reaction has been manifest against the innovations contemplated by the appointment of Mr. BURLINGAME as ambassador to the West. But those who best understand the subject, are of opinion that the changes which benevolent foreigners deem most desirable in that country, are looked upon by the Chinese Government as inevitable and likely to be advantageous, if carried out with the patient wisdom demanded by the character and history of the people. We are called upon to confide in the sagacity and honest intentions of those who have the matter in hand.

In Japan the remarkable condition of things begun some years ago, has shown new developements during the year just closed. A recent traveler in that empire states that the desire to learn English as the key to the knowledge of the West, *is a perfect furore* among the people, and that thousands are engaged in its acquisition with no other helps than a grammar and a dictionary. One such fact may well stand instead of many details. All can see that both these empires, now brought into such near connection with this country, are destined to influence our fortunes in several ways. To watch the unfolding of our mutual relations as well as to look for the results of the great experiment in China, are sources of interest in store for the coming years.

In Europe, several events have taken place, which, in view of their possible consequences, seem likely to rank in history among the most momentous occurrences of the century. If Frenchmen and some others are not mistaken in estimating its effects in changing the direction of the commerce of the world, the Suez Canal is of this character. And we can hardly be wrong in so ranking the assembly of the Council in Rome. Whatever dogmas it may decree, whatever policy adopt, the consequences of its sessions to christendom and the world, will certainly become a permanent element in the annals of mankind. After its adjournment, the Catholic Church, whether better or worse, will not and can never again be precisely what it was before.

A review of the history of our own country during the past year may reasonably inspire pleasing anticipations of the future. The gloomy forebodings with which many looked forward a twelvemonth ago, have not been realized. The wicked and ignorant financial policy of semi-repudiation which, if adopted, would have covered the national character with infamy and forever degraded us as a people, has as the result of the election of Gen. GRANT been condemned. The most conclusive proof has thus been afforded that an educated nation can deliberately prefer honor to ease. The far reaching significance of the selection has been more keenly appreciated abroad than at home, and in the minds of many European thinkers has removed the last and strongest objection to republican government. The year 1869 will always be memorable not only in our own annals, but in the history of the world, for the completion of the Pacific Railroad. Its effects upon our material advancement and upon the developement of our national character will, perhaps, not be more momentous than the international relations of the stupendous achievement. With each month throughout the past year, the confidence of the people in the administration now in power, has steadily increased. From their knowledge of General GRANT's character their expectations were high, and these have not been disappointed. Observing his actions in his new sphere, they have been enabled to discern that, in Gen. GRANT they have a President who stands, in an important sense, above the influences of party, and to whom the claims of humanity are as imperative and worthy of recognition as the interests of state. It indeed is a limited and one-sided wisdom that fails to see that they are identical, or both parts of one whole. Our President's initiation and prosecution of the new Indian policy will, probably, furnish one of the brightest pages in American history.

In our own noble State, something has been done to arrest the tide of political corruption which has long been so foul a blot upon its reputation, and so deadly an influence upon its prosperity. "Yet much remains to conquer still." And on this first day of the new year, we are able to inform our readers that, in various parts of the State, there are unmistakable indications of the awakening of the popular mind to the importance of the subject. Perhaps, however, the most encouraging and least delusive sign of approaching reformation, or at least of the coming of the time when political baseness will be attended by its appropriate infamy, is the manifest alarm which prevails among "the hireling wolves whose gospel is their maw." Should the year upon which we enter to-day witness in its course the effectual and permanent divorce of Pennsylvanian statesmanship from the morals of "old Jewry," it will surely deserve to be marked as a wonderful and blessed year in our annals.

THINGS IN ROME.

One effect of the call of the great Council has certainly been to give the Catholic Church additional prominence in the eyes of the world. In no other way, perhaps, would Protestants have been led to pay so much attention to the position, words and actions of the present Pope. The interest of the subject, the product of causes, the mere specification of which would fill a column of this paper, seems to be generally appreciated. Almost every number of every journal, whether secular or religious, contains one or more telegraphic dispatches concerning his Holiness, and this curiosity turns upon the fresh importance attaching to his movements and state of mind, in connection with the great Assembly now holding its sessions in Rome. This general "Romanizing tendency" among Protestants is undoubtedly due to the action of PIO NONO. His co-religionists may, therefore, properly congratulate him and themselves on *this* result of the Council at least, and the Protestants of to-day have also reason to think themselves fortunate in being the contemporaries of an event which, in so imposing a way, connects the present with the past. Surely no other subject of current interest is more worthy of being closely observed and studied.

The latest dispatch about the Assembly is the item published in yesterday's COMMERCIAL, which reports the opinion of the London *Times* correspondent that, "the Pope's influence over the Ecumenical Council is visibly growing weaker." This item reminds us of the announcement made a while ago, on which we offered some remarks, that the correspondent of the *Times* had been excluded from the Papal States. It was suggested that the person thus excluded, was not the, but merely a correspondent of the great journal, who happened, for some cause, to be objectionable to the Pope. We are now able, on authority, to state that this conjecture was well founded in part at least, and that the member of the *Times* staff, to whom permission to sojourn in the Papal States had been refused, was Signor GALLENGA, of regicidal antecedents. Mr. SEVERN, English Consul at Rome, offered to be security for the king-killing writer, but in vain, and the member of the *Times* staff stationed as correspondent in Naples, was ordered to take his place as reporter near the Council.

This notion of the decline of the Pope's influence with the Council, is the first specimen we have seen of the new *Times* correspondent's ability to enlighten the outside world regarding things in Rome. We confess that it does not impress us favorably. Even at this distance from the scene, we suppose that it betrays a rash and unhistorical mind to assume from any indications now existing, that the Head of the Church has lost an iota of his influence with the consecrated men at present gathered around his peculiar seat, and basking in the light of his benignant presence. Like LUTHER, Father HYACINTHE and some others, an individual here and there among the priests, who are now visiting Rome for the first time, may be disenchanted by what they see, and return to their far away homes with mortified hearts and filled with painful doubts and suspicions. But this will probably be the experience of few. Most of them will retain towards the Holy Father the sentiments of devotion and reverence with which they obeyed his summons to assemble in Council. Should the measures which the Pope is believed to favor not be adopted, the Jesuits will be the scape goat, the reputation of the Head of the Church will be saved and no newspaper correspondent will be warranted by anything to be seen or heard, to say that the influence of the Pope with his clergy has declined. The day having come when such a statement can be truly made, Popery will be near its end. In the nineteenth century a schism such as was comparatively harmless in the fourteenth century, would probably be fatal to the system which has lived so long and survived so many disasters.

THE FIRST JOB TO STOP.

Every year there is printed at Harrisburg, and circulated during the summer months throughout the State, a huge volume bearing the title of the *Legislative Record*. The *Record* for the session of 1869, now lying before us, contains *sixteen hundred and forty pages;* measures about fourteen inches in length, eleven inches in width, and six inches in thickness. It purports to contain a record of legislative proceedings, the debates reported *verbatim*, and Executive communications and reports from committees given in full. The idea that there is any necessity for such a publication, or that it is even a convenience, as the *Record* is gotten up, has long since passed away. It is arranged in a crude and bungling manner, while its printing and circulation is delayed, in order that the printer may make the more money, until midsummer, when all interest in the debates recorded has passed away. The *Record* of the session of 1869 reached us in July or August, and we believe it was an advance copy.

The cost of the *Record* amounts to very nearly if not quite one hundred thousand dollars per annum; and for this sum the people receive simply waste paper. The contract price at which it is published is fifteen dollars per page, but its publication entails postal charges, the employment of an army of pasters and folders, express charges, gratuities to reporters, and a host of other incidentals, swelling the aggregate until it reaches a sum large enough to pay the salaries of all the Judges of the Supreme Court of the State, the salaries of the Governor and his Cabinet, and have a handsome margin remaining.

We are glad to know that an earnest effort will be made at the ensuing session of the Legislature, by the friends of retrenchment and reform, to stop the publication of the *Record*. In many counties of the State the Republican members elect are pledged to vote against it, and we can hardly permit ourselves to doubt that it will be dispensed with. On this point we quote the Harrisburg correspondence of the Beaver *Radical*, with the simple remark that when a job gets too steep for that quarter, it must be bad indeed. Says the *Radical:*

> You will remember that a disposition was evinced at the last session of the Legislature to dispense with the *Legislative Record* as a useless, inaccurate and expensive publication. In several of the counties of this State nominating conventions took special notice of the affair, actually instructing their members to oppose the further printing of the *Record*. All who are acquainted with the value of the document in question are convinced that it is worthless as a source of information in time to correct legislative abuses, while as an authority for reference it is of no value whatever. The cost of publishing and circulating the *Record* amounts to no less than $100,000 per session. I include in this its printing, folding and franking. You will see by this that the demand for dispensing with the document is well founded, alike on principles of economy and sound political policy.

We presume the idea of this printing job was taken from the *Congressional Globe*, in which the proceedings of Congress are reported, and which is in reality a valuable history of each session of Congress. But the *Globe* keeps up a close record of the debates; the proceedings of yesterday are printed this morning; and the paper is one of great value to public men and journalists. But even the *Globe* possesses no general interest for the people, as the report of the debates telegraphed by the Associated Press fully meets their wants. This report embodies in concise form the proceedings of Congress, and furnishes all the speeches the people care to read.

But the *Record* is printed on a different plan from the *Globe*. Even if we were to concede that every word spoken in the Senate and Assembly was worthy of being preserved by the phonographic art, and embalmed for future generations, in a volume double the size of Webster Unabridged, yet the *Record*, owing to the bungling manner in which it is issued, signally fails to be of the slightest present usefulness. When important measures are pending in the Legislature, and when, if ever, the debates would be of interest to the public, the *Record* barely gives a skeleton of the proceedings, and under the head of "Deferred Debates" postpones printing the bursts of legislative eloquence away into the middle of the summer. Under any other system, the enterprising newspapers of Harrisburg—if any such ever have or ever will exist—would be tempted into publishing reports of important debates, and they would be the gainers by it; but as it is now, no papers in the State care to enter into competition with the *Record* in publishing debates which that institution is lavishly paid for printing, but which it does not print in time to be of the slightest use to the public.

One result comes from this, and it is a point we desire members to particularly bear in mind: The proceedings of the Pennsylvania Legislature are more meagerly reported by the papers of the State, including the leading journals of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, than are the proceedings of any other Legislature in the Union. To institute a thorough system of reporting would require on the part of the newspapers a liberal expenditure, and one that they will hardly make so long as the State throws its money away on the *Record*. All the Pittsburgh papers give much fuller reports of the Council proceedings of Pittsburgh and Allegheny and the adjacent boroughs, than is printed by the newspapers of the State of the proceedings of the Pennsylvania Legislature. Twenty years ago, legislative reports were more generally published and at greater length by the city and country press of the State than they are to-day. The *Legislative Record*, if it has accomplished anything, has destroyed this system of making public the proceedings of the Legislature by the newspapers of both parties. The pretense, therefore, that the *Record* is a useful publication is a sham and a fraud. It is the reverse of useful in the effects it has produced. In reality it is a "job," and nothing else can be made out of it.

The manager of this *Record* job, Mr. GEORGE BERGNER, publisher of the Harrisburg *Telegraph*, Postmaster at Harrisburg, etc., has the happy faculty of getting both his hands into the Federal and State Treasury at one and the same time. He is a prestidigitateur of marvellous shrewdness in the art of knowing How To Do It. If by any dire calamity he should ever be forced to experiment on the hazards of human existence without the aid of office holding and the people's money, the belief is almost universal that he would never survive the shock. For printing the *Record* he receives pay at the rate of fifteen dollars per page, and as the volume for 1869, contains 1,640 pages it is clear he receives for it the sum of *twenty-four thousand six hundred dollars;* but there are other incidentals that will quadruple this sum as the cost of the *Record* to the State. Of course it is to the interest of Mr. BERGNER to make the *Record* as large a volume as possible, as every page he gets into it brings him fifteen dollars. This has led to the insertion of an amount of stuff entirely irrelevant to the proceedings of the Legislature, of no use to the members, and of less value to the public than a last year's patent medicine almanac. But still it serves the useful purpose of realizing to Mr. BERGNER fifteen dollars per page as neatly as if it was a debate on the most important bill of the session, participated in by all the great guns the people send to the State capitol.

If any person is interested on this point, let him obtain a copy of last winter's *Record*, and see for himself the amount of stuff that is interpolated in the legislative proceedings for the sole purpose of swelling the cost of the job. We warn him, however, that it will be impossible to obtain a copy of the valuable work with the leaves cut, unless it has been done by the binders. Glancing hastily through the *Record* for 1869, we find a paper on the artificial breeding of shad and trout, which cost according to our computation at $15 per page, $117 50. Then laws are inserted to fill up the space, notwithstanding they appear in the pamphlet edition of the laws printed by the State Printer, which was circulated weeks if not months before the *Record* got out with the same laws. And who ever thinks of hunting up the *Record* to find a legislative act? That the object of their insertion was plunder at the rate of fifteen dollars per page, is as palpable as that two and two make four. Page upon page of the *Record* is taken up with the unnecessary repetition of the titles of bills pending in the Senate and Assembly, but the "juiciest" items that came to Mr. BERGNER's till appear to have been the contested election cases. They run up into the hundred pages, including the testimony of witnesses, the arguments of lawyers, newspaper scraps, etc.; all thrown into the *Record* at $15 per page. That is the sole purpose of their insertion. No excuse or reason, outside of this, of any force whatever, can be assigned.

Coming down from large sums, we find that in the make up of the *Record*, not even the most petty typographic tricks have been lost sight of in plundering the treasury. Thus, for instance, there are possibly, in the volume before us, hundreds and thousands of such entries as the following:

The bill was read and
 Agreed to.
The title was read and
 Agreed to.
On transcribing the bill, it was
 Agreed to.

Or this:

The first and second sections were read and
 Agreed to.
The title was read and
 Agreed to.
On transcribing the bill, it was
 Agreed to.
On the suspension of the rules,

Any printer will see that the object of elongating these paragraphs, in violation as it is of good taste and typographic decency, is for the sole purpose of swelling the bulk of the volume. How many hundreds of dollars the *Record* got out of the State Treasury by this trick, we do not care to inquire. All that should be necessary is to expose it.

On the basis of a hurried calculation we are satisfied that the *Legislative Record* for 1869 could be reduced from sixteen hundred and forty pages down to six hundred pages, and the result would be a volume of infinitely greater, or rather of some interest and usefulness. Unfortunately, if the reduction in size had been made, the volume would have cost the taxpayers only nine thousand dollars. As it is, Mr. BERGNER pockets twenty-five thousand dollars, besides the incidentals, for putting out a book that is worse than useless to the people.

The *Record* in most instances finds its way to the paper mills, and there the speeches of the members are reduced to a pulpy state, comically suggestive of the character of many of their oratorical efforts. In conclusion we can safely assert that no more useless method of squandering money has been devised in this State than the *Legislative Record*. The paster and folder swindle, which is a part of the *Record* job, had the merit of distributing the money among a great number of people, and enabled members to cancel political obligations; the *Record* not only creates a needless outlay, but it has had the effect of discouraging and almost abolishing newspaper reports of legislative proceedings.

ERA OF EARTHQUAKES.

We seem to be living in an era of earthquakes. And the frequency with which the earth in various countries has been shaken during the last few years, has led to much writing and speculation on the general subject of what are call seismic phenomena. In *Old and New* for January, Mr. WILLIAM T. BRIGHAM gives some account of the many disturbances of this kind by which New England has been shaken. In that highly-favored part of the country, one hundred and forty-nine of these quakes are recorded to have taken place between the first settlement and the year 1850, and several have occurred since. Though not comparable in their destructive effects with the earthquakes of South America, some of them have been of great severity. Yet in building their houses the people have paid no attention to the possibilities suggested by these occurrences in the past. And hence Mr. BRIGHAM thinks that if the shock of 1755 were repeated now, "half Boston would be ruined and the loss of life terrible." This same writer anticipates that by the use of an instrument of recent invention, called "the self-registering seismometer" or shake measurer, much light will be thrown upon the cause of earthquakes, one of the most obscure subjects at present. In connection with these tremendous convulsions of the earth, we usually think only of destruction. It appears, however, from a late foreign paper, that the shocks of some time ago, between Wiesloch and Heidelberg, in Germany, have led to a very valuable discovery. By the overthrow of an ancient limestone wall, an unsuspected passage, concealed for many centuries, was opened up, which, on examination, proved to be a mine worked by the Romans. In it were found not only Roman mining implements, but a great quantity of the ore, carbonate of zinc. The ancient miners were in pursuit only of silver, and left this ore behind as of no value. Earthquakes have, we believe, often been the means of revealing veins of the precious and other metals.

AMERICAN COLLEGES IN AMERICAN POLITICS.

A large proportion of our able and distinguished men in public life have never been at college. Some of them have received an essentially collegiate training in private schools, but many of them belong to the class of self-taught men. Amidst the toils of mechanical or mercantile pursuits, they have acquired the mental discipline and the stores of knowledge by which they so conspicuously shine as luminaries in the learned professions and in the halls of legislation. The people honor them, money flows in upon them, and perhaps few of them ever see much, if any, reason to regret that they were not sent to college in their youth. Nothing can be more successful than success, and if wealth and honors do not constitute that splendid acquisition, even Mr. PARTON could not tell us what are its elements, or wherein it consists. Mr. EMERSON, indeed, gives an account of a self-made man, who had been brilliantly successful in life, but who, in spite of his achievements, never could get rid of a most painful feeling of inferiority in the presence of the least successful man, who had enjoyed the advantage of a residence in college. Were such cases numerous, we would say that it is well to go to college for a little while, just for the effect of the experience upon the consciousness or feelings of the student. Even a week's sojourn would generally suffice to banish forever, or render impossible the awe inspired by the name of the thing. But we fancy that cases like the one described by Mr. EMERSON are of exceedingly rare occurrence. In our happily constituted society the successful man must be exceedingly morbid in disposition, or very insensible to external impressions, if he fails to find in the end he has gained abundant compensation for all fanciful or even real deficiencies.

But many of our self-made men obtained for themselves the advantages of a collegiate education. In fact a much larger number than some suppose of our members of Congress and conspicuous politicians have been and are graduates of colleges. In England, a few years ago, somebody was at pains to prove, by the investigation of catalogues, calendars, &c., that a majority of the judges and eminent civil servants had not only been university men, but had taken honors in the university. Our country is so extensive, we have so many colleges, and there is so little general interest felt in one college more than in another, that such an investigation relative to the education of American statesmen, jurists, &c., would be very difficult, and, it may be, not particularly interesting in its results. Of the members of an English ministry perhaps nearly all have been connected with one or another of two or three Universities. The only question of curiosity is which of these seats of learning can claim the largest number of them as its sons. Of an American Cabinet, we suppose, it rarely happens that any two members have been educated at the same college. Hence it seems worth while to mention the fact, really quite remarkable, which we have not seen anywhere noticed, that two Heads of Departments in General GRANT's Cabinet are not only graduates of the same college—that of New Jersey, at Princeton—but were in college at the same time, at least during a part of their course. Examining the Triennial Catalogue published in 1866, we find that Mr. GEORGE MAXWELL ROBESON, Secretary of the Navy, was graduated in the class of 1847, and that Mr. WILLIAM WORTH BELKNAP, Secretary of War, was graduated in the class of 1848.

While referring to this subject, we may say that Princeton has graduated a very large number of young men afterwards distinguished in the legal and political annals of the country. In the class of 1771 occur the names of HUGH HENRY BRACKENRIDGE of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, and JAMES MADISON, of Virginia, President of the United States. And in the class of 1772 occur the names of WILLIAM BRADFORD, WILLIAM SMITH LIVINGSTON and AARON BURR.

LIVING RATES IN 1865 AND 1869.

It is a mooted question whether living rates at the present time are higher or lower, in proportion to the prices of labor, than they were in 1864 and '65, when war prices reached their highest altitude. The question is one that cannot be determined without first obtaining the average rates paid mechanics, and clerks in the various avocations, at the period mentioned, and at present. In making these comparisons, the difficulties encountered at the outset frequently deter those most interested from entering upon an investigation, especially when the fact is taken into consideration that the data upon which the calculations are based in a given locality, cannot be accepted as altogether correct in another. Still, it is susceptible of proof that an approximate estimate, say of the rates of labor in a manufacturing center such as Pittsburgh, for instance, and their purchasing power may be adopted as a fair standard for other manufacturing cities, or points where the avocations herein alluded to are prosecuted with ordinary correctness. And even where the data upon which the following calculations are based may be found at fault, as in the matter of rent and fuel, it will not be difficult to modify the figures so as to adapt the tables to any locality.

To determine the difference between the purchasing power of one hundred dollars in 1865 and now, it is only necessary to turn to the retail prices which ruled in 1865, and to contrast them with present quotations. Thus, for instance, the average price of the following articles during 1865 and in 1869 may be stated thus:

		1865.	1869.	Reduction ₩ cent.
Flour	bbl.	$12 50	$7 50	40
Potatoes	bush.	1 15	60	48
Steak	lb.	25	18	28
Coffee	lb.	40	28	30
Sugar	lb.	20	15	25
Butter	lb.	60	40	33⅓
Ham	lb.	28	24	14 2-7
Tea	lb.	1 80	1 40	22 2-9
Rice	lb.	18	15	17
Beans	qt.	14	10	28 4-7
Bacon	lb.	26	22	15 5-13
Cheese	lb.	26	22	15 5-13
Calico	yd.	30	15	50
Blankets	pr.	18 00	9 00	50
Muslin	yd.	36	18	50
Boots	pr.	10 00	6 00	40
Shoes	pr.	5 00	3 50	30
Brogans, hob nail	pr.	5 00	4 50	10
Shoes, children's	pr.	2 50	1 75	30

Here we have a difference in the average cost of nineteen articles entering largely into daily consumption of 30 1-3 per cent. in favor of the prices of 1869. The purchasing power of $100 in 1865 and 1869 may be expressed thus:

		1865.	1869.
Flour	lbs.	1,600	2,666
Steak	lbs.	400	555
Coffee	lbs.	250	357
Sugar	lbs.	500	666
Butter	lbs.	166	250
Ham	lbs.	357	416⅔
Potatoes	bush.	87	166⅔
Tea	lb.	55 5-9	71 3-7
Calico	yds.	333	666
Muslin	yds.	277	554
Blankets	pr.	5½	11

The ground work for the comparison of living rates, however, is to be found in the average price of labor in the various avocations. The following table exhibits the average prices paid in 1865 and 1869.

	1865.	1869.	Reduction.
Bricklayers	$5 00	$5 00	..... per cent.
Plasterers	4 50	4 00	11 1-9 per cent.
Masons	3 75	3 00	20 per cent.
Blacksmiths	3 50	2 75	21 3-7 per cent.
Carpenters	3 25	2 50	20 per cent.
Painters	3 25	2 50	20 per cent.
Machinists	3 25	2 50	20 per cent.

In 1865 puddlers received $9 00 per ton; they now receive $6 75, or 25 per cent. less than in 1865. Rollers receive 40 per cent. less; laborers 25 per cent less. It will be perceived from the above that the wages of nine out of ten avocations were better in proportion to living rates in 1869 than they were in 1865. Masons, blacksmiths, carpenters, painters and machinists' wages have been reduced about 20 per cent., while the average decline in living rates is 30 per cent. The following table exhibits the purchasing power of a blacksmith's wages per month in 1865 and 1869:

1865.			1869.	
Flour at	$12 50	1,344 lbs.	At $7 50	2,011 lbs.
Butter at	60	140 lbs.	At 40	165 lbs.
Sugar at	20	420 lbs.	At 15	440 lbs.
Bacon at	26	323 lbs.	At 22	339 lbs.
Cheese at	26	321 lbs.	At 18	366 lbs.
Coffee at	40	210 lbs.	At 28	236 lbs.
Potatoes at	1 15	73 bus	At 70	110 bus
Steak at	25	336 lbs.	At 18	440 lbs.

The difference between the purchasing power of the wages of a carpenter, painter or machinist is not so great, thus:

	1865.		1869.	
Flour	1,204	lbs.	1,600	lbs.
Steak	312	lbs.	333	lbs.
Butter	130	lbs.	150	lbs.
Coffee	195	lbs.	222	lbs.
Bacon	300	lbs.	273	lbs.
Cheese	300	lbs.	333	lbs.
Sugar	330	lbs.	400	lbs.
Potatoes	68 bush.		85 bush.	
Coal	600 bush.		600 bush.	

In every article enumerated, save one, it will be seen that notwithstanding the difference between the wages paid in 1865 and 1869, the purchasing power of the last exceeds those of 1865. The difference in favor of the wages of 1869 will be found in a more marked degree in almost every article in the entire range of domestic dry goods, the only item that can be said to have been reduced to rates nearly approaching ante-war prices.

The difference in favor of the purchasing power of the wages of iron workers in 1869 over those of 1865 is less than that exhibited in the above tables, being about 5 per cent. in favor of laborers, while it is from 5 to 10 per cent, against rollers. The heaters are decided gainers.

It is difficult to determine with any degree of accuracy the salaries of clerks, but one thing is certain, namely, that the wages of nine-tenth of those engaged in clerkly duties did not advance in the same ratio as the wages of mechanics. Upward of seven-tenths of those engaged in clerkly avocations are paid at the rate of $800 per annum! About one-tenth receive from $1,200 to $1,500; the remainder average $1,000. The bricklayer, who works 180 days in the year (a fair year's work), is better paid than seven-tenths of the clerks. As far as the matter of actual remuneration is concerned, the amount received by any one hundred mechanics, embracing a score of occupations, will be found to exceed that of the same number of clerks. Taking the clerkly avocations as a whole, it would not be difficult to show that ever since the appreciation of prices, their condition has not been as good as it was in ante-war times.

There is one item as essential to living at the present day as meat or drink, to wit: rent, and in this item alone we find more than enough, in this locality, to turn the scale in favor of the prices paid a majority of mechanics in 1865. Within the past five years rents have more than doubled, and in numerous instances trebled. Houses containing ten, twelve and fourteen rooms have doubled; houses containing six, seven and eight rooms have advanced one hundred and fifty per cent., while three, four and five room tenement houses have in a majority of instances trebled. These are the homes of the working classes.

In order to illustrate this condition of affairs, it is only necessary to present a statement exhibiting the actual expenditures of a mechanic who received $3 50 a day in 1865, or at the rate of $84 00 per month, and who now receives $66 00. His flour, butter, cheese, coffee, tea, sugar, meat, fish, potatoes, milk, light and fuel cost him in 1865, an average of $48 51 per month, or a total of $582 12 per year. His rent was $9 00 per month—$108 00 per year, making a total of $690 12, leaving a balance of about $300 for clothing and taxes. His groceries, light and fuel cost him in 1869 $391 00, and although still occupying the same house, his rent increased from $9 00 to $23 00 per month, making a difference in this item alone of $168 00, leaving him but $125 00 to clothe his family and pay taxes. This is a fair illustration of the practical operation of high rents in this locality. In nineteen cases out of twenty, the appreciation of rents more than overbalances the difference between the purchasing power of the wages of 1865 and 1869.

MORE QUESTIONS FOR MR. QUAY.

It is somewhat surprising how questions for Mr. QUAY to answer or refuse to answer, just as he pleases, accumulate. Numberless inquiries full of meaning, with all the necessary information, and extremely perplexing if the truth is to come out, have been forwarded to us from different quarters, which we reserve for future use. But the following, propounded by *Father Abraham*, we reproduce as a fair sample of many others. From the paper named we quote as follows:

> As Mr. Quay is a public man, and sets himself up as the ringleader, and publicly boasted that "his slate" is bound to go through; and as all these libel cases are supposed to have been instituted for the purpose of bringing out the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, questions bearing upon Mr. Quay's financial operations whilst he was a member of the Legislature and candidate for the Speakership, session of 1867, are in order, and we respectfully beg leave to ask him a few additional questions, not contained in the proceedings before the Alderman, which he may answer through the columns of the *Radical:*
>
> 1st. *Question*—When you was a candidate for Speaker, Mr. Quay, session of 1867, did you say that you only needed the four members from Lancaster county to make it; and that to secure them you needed $10,000 more cash?
>
> 2d. *Question*—Did a friend then call on you and agree to furnish you with said sum, and did you call on the Lancaster members, about midnight preceding the caucus, and endeavor to use said sum and negotiate for their support, and failed because other parties had already secured them?
>
> We were going to ask another question in regard to an interesting financial operation in Ninth street, Philadelphia, about the same time, but as Mr. Quay is a little slow about answering, we will not press anything more upon him at this time.

Will Mr. QUAY come to the scratch, so that the whole truth may be brought out? Here is a good place to say that Mr. QUAY is only one of a nice party in the same boat, and equally interested in the development of truth. A set of questions for each in turn cannot fail to awaken a lively interest in the public mind, even if the embarrassment to the questioned should be considerable.

ANOTHER addition has been made to the nauseous BYRON scandal, in the shape of an autobiography of Miss MEDORA LEIGH, "the child of sin" of Mrs. STOWE's statement. We have not seen the book, but copious extracts from it are given in the New York papers of Saturday, and from these we gather that the narrative neither directly refutes nor directly confirms Lady BYRON's charge against her husband. Dr. CHARLES MACKAY, so well known in this country, who edits the volume, makes Miss LEIGH's narrative the occasion and basis of a defense of the celebrated poet. Whatever the influence of the book may prove to be upon his reputation, its chronicle of sin, shame, eccentricity, and so forth, suggests abundant reason why the friends of Lady BYRON should have abstained from vindicating her name or memory by the publication of the statement for which Mrs. STOWE has made herself responsible. Its revelations place that lady's indiscretion in a very strong light before the indifferent world—it must seem little less than horrible to the aristocratic family—the waywardness, or eccentricity of whose members is inevitably made the subject of public gossip in consequence of the agitation which she has provoked.

ENGLAND volunteered a great deal of benevolent advice as to how we should treat the Southern insurgents after the collapse of the rebellion. But no such promptings were requisite. We notice a case in one of its own colonies far more deserving of JOHN BULL's humantarian principles. The leading Maori rebels in New Zealand—three in number—were tried for high treason, in October last, and after conviction had the following humane sentence passed upon them by the presiding colonial judge:

> The sentence of the Court on you and each of you is, that you be drawn on a hurdle to the legal place of execution, and there be hanged by the neck until you are dead; that your heads be then severed and your bodies be divided into four quarters, to be disposed of as his Excellency the Governor directs. I again say that I am sure nothing will be done but the hanging. And now may that Almighty God, whose name you have so often profaned, have mercy on your guilty souls.

WIRZ, the Andersonville jailor, received no such fate as this, although British sympathy was lavished on him. One of the Maori prisoners committed suicide soon after hearing the above sentence.

SENATOR SUMNER says he regards the letter of Secretary FISH to the Earl of Clarendon on the Alabama question as "one of the ablest and most masterly state papers in our history." It has been suggested that the Senator had a hand in its preparation, but this high comment forbids the idea. It seems to be understood that Mr. FISH had some assistance in producing it. Such a suggestion is not at all contrary to previous experience. Mr. WEBSTER's celebrated dispatch, wherein he spoke of Austria as "a mere patch on the map of the world," was largely Mr. EVERETT's workmanship, though entirely Websterian in style. In Mr. FISH's recent famous dispatch tracks resembling those of CALEB CUSHING can be detected.

IT is announced in the Western papers that arrangements have been made with the Pennsylvania Central and its allies for building the Louisiana road *via* Mexico and Glasgow, to Kansas City, with a road from Pana, in Illinois, to Louisiana, and bridges over the Mississippi at Louisiana and over the Missouri at Glasgow. It is stated that the work will begin early next season. This would seem to be a continuation as nearly as possible in a direct line northward of St. Louis, of the Pennsylvania Central connections to Kansas City. Though St. Louis papers speak of this enterprise approvingly, it is difficult to perceive how that city will reap any advantage, as it will divert from it Eastern and Western business.

A CORRECTED statement of the vote on the motion to lay on the table the nomination of Mr. HOAR, for Associate Judge, shows that those who voted in the affirmative numbered thirty-four; in the negative twenty-one; absent ten. Senator SCOTT voted in the negative, and Senator CAMERON was absent. In the expectation that Mr. HOAR's nomination would be confirmed, the position of Attorney General in the Cabinet had been tendered to Judge STRONG, of Philadelphia, and accepted by him. But Mr. HOAR is yet Attorney General, and will probably remain so; and it is also probable that Judge STRONG will be nominated for the seat on the Bench made vacant by Mr. STANTON's death.

IT is something to make a special note of that those who went "the grand rounds" of the official receivers in Washington, on New Years day, commencing with the White House, were not able to obtain a drop of "the ardent" to drink. There was plenty of whatever was good for them—water, coffee, etc., but with these the fluids ended. Long may the practice continue!

THE new-fangled pavement lately poured down in some of the streets of New York is being scraped up and carted away. With it vanishes a million of dollars of the people's money. The swindlers are ready for another job, and they will not have to wait long either. The worst part of this business is that in smaller cities these swindlers have their imitators.

ANOTHER international yacht race has been arranged by the Atlantic Cable. It will be between the American schooner Dauntless, owned by Mr. James Gordon Bennett, Jr., and the English schooner Cambria, owned by Mr. Ashbury, of Brighton, England. The starting point will be the Old Head of Kinsale, and the western terminus Sandy Hook. The Fourth of July, 1870, is named as the day for starting.

MR. DELANO claims to have procured, through Mr. Stansbery, Mr. Johnson's signature to the Wool Tariff after the veto was written. The bill reached the Capitol five minutes before the final adjournment. All that is necessary now to a full knowledge of the matter is a statement of the arguments used to produce so sudden and extraordinary change.

THE Democracy of Ohio are becoming fearfully demoralized. For instance, in Champaign county, they are running Harry Ford, a colored man from Urbana, for State Senator from that district, and have printed under his name: "If he is white enough to vote, he is white enough to be voted for." We tremblingly ask, what next?

THE number of miles of railroads constructed in this country during the year which has just closed, is equal to all that existed up to 1849, and exceeds the total construction of any two former years. At $40,000 a mile, the cost was in the neighborhood of three hundred millions of dollars.

THE *Press* gives brief biographies of seven "wealthy colored men" of Philadelphia, whose wealth is variously estimated at from $30,000 to $500,000. Were we to attempt to go over that ground here, the number of "wealthy" colored men would remind the *Press* of a letter list.

THE SCHOOLS OF THE STATE.

A Few Interesting Facts—The School System Nearly Universal.

We are indebted to Prof. George J. Luckey, City Superintendent, for a copy of the "Report of the Superintendent of Common Schools of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, for the year ending June 7, 1869." From the report of Mr. J. P. Wickersham, State Superintendent, we learn that there are now 1,971 school districts in the State, and 13,936 schools, of which number 2,445 are graded. There are 17,142 teachers, and the average salaries per month are—males, $39 00; females, $30 52. The average length of school term is six months. Whole number of pupils 815,753. Average number of pupils 548,675. The percentage of attendance upon the whole number registered is 67. Average cost of tuition for each pupil 97. Cost of tuition for the year, $3,500,704 26. Cost of building, renting and purchasing school houses, $2,455,847 71. Cost of contingencies, $936,559 70—making a total cost, including expenditures of all kinds, of $6,986,148 92. The estimated value of school property is $14,045,632 00.

The increase in the most important items, as compared with last year, is as follows: In number of districts, 53; in schools, 270; in teachers, 371; in pupils, 15,238; in cost of tuition, $227,434 83; in cost of building and expenditures of all kinds, $785,610 96.

The debt of the several districts of the State is $473,611 54. The value of school property in the State is estimated at $14,045,632, being an increase of $3,488,867 over 1868. Allegheny county holds $1,445,174 in school property.

Notwithstanding the school law was made general in 1848, at the beginning of 1867 twenty-four districts, in twelve different counties, had stubbornly refused to put schools in operation, thus losing their State appropriations and in a measure depriving 6,000 children of the advantages of an education. Under the operations of the laws of 1867, fifteen of these districts have adopted the system and received their appropriations, and four others have opened their schools and will in due time receive their proportion of the fund. The five remaining districts—Harmony, Beaver county; Little Mahanoy, Northumberland county; Conemaugh, Somerset county; and Overfield and Washington, Wyoming county—have not yet opened their schools, but all of them are expected to do so except Harmony district, Beaver county, under the control of the "Economite Society," which will probably not adopt the system so long as the Society exists under its present control. The Society, however, it must be understood, supports a good school.

The State Superintendent says: "It should be a source of rejoicing that our school system has at last become so nearly universal; and that, too, by the voluntary consent of the people."

The annual reports of Superintendents Luckey and Douthett, which embrace all the schools of Allegheny county, have already been published in our columns, and we shall not recapitulate them here.

Doubtful Comfort.

The proverbial slowness of the English government in reaching conclusions was aptly illustrated by Mr. Otway, in his recent speech in the English Parliament, on the Alabama claims and the question of international relations. Adverting to the adjustment of the naturalization question, Mr. Otway took occasion to congratulate his audience upon the fact that the government "had been fortunate enough to bring to a satisfactory conclusion a question of primary importance between Great Britain and the United States; a question which had existed between them ever since the treaty of 1782; he meant the question of naturalization, and the claims of this country to the indelible allegiance of the natural born British subject even after he has emigrated to the United States."

He found consolation in this fact, and trusted that in time the Alabama claims would be adjusted in a manner equally satisfactory. As the question of naturalization only gave rise to one war, and hung in the balance from 1783 to 1866, or down to the final negotiations in connection with the Fenian convicts in 1866, a period extending over eighty-three years, we doubt whether the majority of people will find much encouragement in Mr. Otway's little illustration.

THE conquests of science during the present century have undoubtedly been very splendid. So many of the dark sides of nature have been illumined, so many of the phenomena which were utter mysteries a few years ago, have been resolved into simple and obvious principles, that much excuse exists for the romantic anticipations cherished by some, of still more brilliant and valuable results soon to crown the investigations of the savans. We suppose, however, that there is much illusion in many minds regarding this subject. To explain a phenomenon, in the sense of the men of science, is merely to refer it to its law or principle. The famous epitaph on Newton would have seemed a greater extravagance to the philosopher than to anybody else.

> "Nature and nature's laws lay hid in night,
> "God said, Let Newton be, and all was light."

The demonstration of the law of gravity did not divest the subject of its mystery; the cause of gravity is as completely unknown now as it was before the discovery. And we may justly say the same in regard to Huxley's investigations in physiology. The detection of a physical basis of life would leave life itself the unfathomable mystery that it has been from the beginning.

THE alleged forgery of the will of Miss Steinecke, for the murder of whom Dr. Schoeppe has been convicted, is one of the curious features of the case, at least the course on the trial in regard to it was. The Commonwealth offered the will in evidence as a forgery, to show motive for murder, of course. They offered an executor in a previous will to prove it. The defense objected unless the subscribing witness, the Rev. Mr. Schoeppe, was first called. They seated this witness inside the bar, and pointed him out, saying to the Commonwealth, "There he is, gentlemen—call him." This the Commonwealth refused to do, and the question was never examined in Court. The affidavit of Mr. Charles R. Coleman, Cashier of the National Mechanics' Bank of Baltimore, in which Miss Steinecke for many years, and up to the time of her death, kept an account is also submitted. Mr. Coleman is perfectly familiar with her signature, and has frequently seen her write it. He has examined the will which leaves her property to Dr. Schoeppe, and his affidavit says: "I am of the opinion that it is her genuine signature." He is confirmed in this belief by a careful comparison of her checks in the bank with the will. These facts are regarded as very favorable to Dr. Schoeppe.

THE duties on foreign imports collected at the Baltimore Custom House during the year 1869 amounted to over $9,000,000, and an increase of nearly $3,000,000, as compared with the previous year. The following is a recapitulation of the amounts collected respectively in the several years from 1862 to 1869, from which it may be seen that the growth of the commerce of the city has been steady, but that the past year shows that it has taken a start that indicates a much more rapid increase hereafter:

Duties and Imports Collected at the Baltimore Custom House.

1862	$1,941,529 57
1863	1,919,229 99
1864	2,167,120 05
1865	2,983,202 33
1866	4,665,084 35
1867	5,798,820 85
1868	6,217,496 41
1869	9,027,513 63

A NEW YORK paper asks pertinently: "Once more, why is coal at retail, from individual dealers, but little lower in price than before the wholesale reductions? A fall of over a dollar a ton took place a day or two since, but what yard bulletin is altered? It is intolerable that while the dealer has to pay but a little over $6 a ton of 2,240 pounds the public is charged $8 50 per ton of 2,000 pounds." The same question is one that is frequently raised in this neighborhood, where we are hemmed in with coal-banks. Why is it that coal, still remains at prices that ruled in 1863 and 1864? Coals and baker's loaves are two things that require close looking after. The shrinkage in the last mentioned, which, by the way, set in when gold was at 280, threatens to become chronic.

SOME of the beauties of the Income Tax law are painted by the *Tribune* as follows: "A farmer in Vermont or Ohio, whose income, honestly computed, is $2,000, is in better circumstances than the merchant in this city, Boston, New Orleans or San Francisco, whose income is $5,000; yet, after deducting the $1,000 exempted by law, the farmer is called on for $50 and the merchant for $200. The widow and orphans who have but $1,000 a year in all, must hand over $50 of it as Income Tax if their property happens to be invested in railroad stocks or bonds—no $1,000 exemption for them!" The *Tribune* very reasonably insists that if this tax is to be revised, on making every one pay it.

THE relations between low salaries and defalcation and other kinds of stealing, is eliciting discussion at present, especially as regards bank officers and persons in other similar positions of responsibility and temptation. The subject is a good one. When it has been exhausted, another might be started, to-wit: What is the duty of principals when their agents are unmistakably living at a rate greatly in excess of their salaries? A wise disposition of these two questions, and a faithful conforming thereto, may be of greater service to employer and employed than most people at present suppose.

A NEW ENGLAND journal, while admitting that it is true that the population of the New England States has decreased, still argues that the decrease is because the cultivation of the soil and the development of the resources require less labor than formerly. Old England's experience is just the reverse. We are inclined to the belief that a part of the secret of the decrease in the population is to be found in the fact that in many localities, the inhabitants find "four acres more than enough" for them.

IT is estimated that be the end of the year 1869 there will be laid in the United States, in round numbers, 110,000 tons of steel rails, equal to 1,100 miles of steel road; and of this amount about 36,000 tons (equal to 360 miles) will be laid during the present season. These rails are in use on more than fifty different roads, and are partly of American, principally of English, and to a small extent of Prussian manufacture.—*Iron Trade Circular.*

UNTIL we receive reports from official sources admitting the incapacity of the Suez Canal, it would be wisdom to doubt the assertions which declare it a failure. In every instance, it is said, the detracting reports reach us from England. As English engineers declared the work which M. De Lesseps has just completed one that could not be accomplised, the grounds for the frequent rumors must be evident to the dullest.

FOREIGN ARRIVALS.

Who Came—Where From—Where They Went.

According to the annual report of the Commissioners of Emigration, at New York, there has been an increase of arrivals for 1869 over those of 1868—the aggregate during the past year having been 254,837. In 1868 there was a notable increase of immigrants from Germany and a decrease of the number of Irish emigrants—161,989 having been reported from the former country and only 47,571 from the latter. This year the proportion has been considerably altered, only 96,811 German immigrants having arrived, while there were 68,632 from Ireland. The increase of English immigrants has been remarkable. In 1868 there were but 29,695, while last year the number was swollen to 41,537. We can only account for this on the supposition that the distressed condition of the English operatives and miners has driven thousands of them to seek new homes in America. This theory seems to be supported by the fact that mining and manufacturing Pennsylvania has received during the last year 30,746 immigrants against 16,926 in 1868—an increase of almost one hundred per cent. Among the States which have received the largest accessions of foreign immigrants, we note, first, New York, which has 82,372; Illinois, which has 37,318; Pennsylvania, as above stated; Wisconsin, which has 16,632; Ohio, which has 11,738; Massachusetts, which has 8,158; Iowa, which has 8,026; and New Jersey, which has 7,743. Why Missouri, once a favorite locality with immigrants, should have received but 4,823, we are at a loss to understand.

VOICE OF THE VETERANS.

Indorsement of Grant's Administration—Pennsylvania Legislative Corruption—Indorsement of the "Commercial"—The Quay Libel Suit.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.

NATIONAL MILITARY ASYLUM,
DAYTON, OHIO, December 29th, 1869.

If there is anything especially gratifying to an individual, who has shed his blood and sacrificed his health in the service of his government, it is to see an honest determination on the part of those whose duty it is to govern and control, to manage public affairs with proper economy and disinterested fidelity to the trust confided to them. On the contrary there is nothing so calculated to discourage him or excite his indignation, as to witness those, who are elected to positions of trust and honor, betray the confidence reposed in them by lending themselves tools to bribery and corruption, or use the power and influence thus conferred, to advance their own selfish ends or the interests of a chosen few, to the detriment of the public good. For this reason the administration of President Grant, so far as it tends to expose fraudulent practices and dispose of dishonest officials and execute the laws with strict fidelity and economy, must, and ever will, receive the honest and enthusiastic approval of the inmates of this institution. This exhibition of faithfulness and honesty on the part of the present administration of the general government presents a favorable contrast to the corrupt governments and systems of legislation in existence in many of the principal States of this Union.

Among the present inmates of this institution are a large number of disabled soldiers from the Keystone State. Ever proud to be known as volunteers from Pennsylvania during the late war, and ever ready to defend her with their lives, they still look with fond and patriotic interest to all that pertains to her welfare and safety. While here exiled from their native State by their misfortunes, and suffering the consequences of their own devoted patriotism and loyalty, they have often been pained and mortified at the many exhibitions of selfishness and corruption especially manifested by the members of the last Legislature of Pennsylvania. In view of the fact that a new Legislature is about to convene, we earnestly hope and pray, that that body may wisely appreciate the proverb, "A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches," and abolish once and for all the present iniquitous ring system of legislation.

As an inmate of this institution, I believe I but speak the sentiments of every disabled veteran soldier of the National Military Asylum in saying, that we heartily indorse and approve the persistent and determined efforts of the COMMERCIAL to expose and suppress dishonesty and corruption in high places; and it is extremely gratifying to witness the evidences of support which such a course receives from all honest citizens, and the degree of success and influence already secured. We trust other journals throughout the State may be induced to more effectually lend their aid to accomplish these necessary reforms.

We have read with interest the report of the Quay-COMMERCIAL libel suit, and we believe, whatever may be the consequence to the parties concerned, the result cannot fail to be highly beneficial to the public, and must carry with it a wholesome influence. We trust others of "the ring," by a similar indiscretion, may be influenced to commit self-exposure as Mr. Quay has done, believing they can injure none but themselves.

Our absence from the State may be but temporary with some of us, but with others it will probably be forever. If a parting word of advice from us would be heeded, we counsel our more fortunate comrades who have the privilege, and all honest citizens, to properly dispose of Mr. Quay and all other officers or servants who may prove themselves alike unworthy.

DISABLED VETERAN.

EUGENIE.

Her Reception on Her Return from Egypt.

The Empress Eugenie appears to have concentrated on herself all the rage and suspicions of the Paris revolutionists. On her return from Egypt she was assailed by injurious rumors and sullen looks from the populace of the capital. As Maria Antoinette was called "the Austrian," so Eugenie has been nicknamed "the Spaniard." This on account of her intense Catholicism and the influence of the Jesuits over her, as well as her well understood opposition to all measures of reform and progress. The London *News* of the 18th of December discusses this fact in the following manner:

> Poor Marie Antoinette, it is now an historic certainty, *was compelled by fear and anger to plot against her adopted country and the revolution.* But why was she, a pure and proud woman, assailed with the most abominable insults, and why were all her most innocent gaieties turned to foul calumnies by the popular rage, before she was ever suspected of Austrian conspiracies? For no other reason than that the King was notoriously infirm of purpose, and hers was the higher spirit and the stronger will; and to her, therefore, was attributed every counter-revolutionary manifesto and manoeuvre, every sign and symptom of resistance and reaction. Hence the murderous rancour that surrounded her, the once radiant and happy Dauphiness of youthful years, who had become "the Austrian woman," the enemy of patriots and of the public liberties, and that pursued her to the death. The Empress Eugenie is known to cherish with the fondness of an almost superstitious devotion every relic and memorial of that martyred Queen. There is, of course, nothing in common between that daughter of Emperors and this wife of an Emperor, except a palace, a throne and—the revolution. Tragic examples possess sometimes a morbid fascination for frivolous natures; for noble minds they are solemn admonitions. The Empress Eugenie has many sincere personal well wishers on this side of the channel, who, caring nothing for the second empire, but very much for the happiness and freedom of France, are concerned to hear that the funds fell on the return of the Empress to Paris, and *that her influence (to which the Mexican expedition and the second occupation of Rome had already been ascribed) is held responsible for all the difficulties and delays which prevent the restoration of parliamentary government and ministerial responsibility.* It is a most cruel weakness that takes shelter behind a woman's generous infatuation. And it is a weakness that can only prove fatal to a dynasty, for the nation, at all events, is sure to survive it.

A Captive Among Indians.

[From the Cheyenne Leader, Dec., 21st.]

On Sunday night we had the pleasure of meeting and conversing at length with Mrs. Kelly, the lady who was captured by the Sioux Indians in 1864, at the time of the attack upon and destruction of a train of wagons crossing the plains in the summer of that year. The attack was made on the old emigrant road at a point some little distance west of Fort Laramie, and the circumstances of the affair are doubtless well remembered by many of our readers. It was in July of the year before mentioned that a train of wagons, laden with goods and supplies, and accompanied by nine men, two women, and two children, left Fort Laramie, pursuing their westward march. The commandant at the post assured them that no difficulty need be apprehended from Indians, and, while they would, doubtless, encounter them, that if they treated them kindly no fears of danger need be entertained. At this time no depredations had as yet been committed by the Indians, and the travelers felt secure in proceeding on their journey. Some distance from the fort, where they had encamped for the night, they were approached by a party of some three hundred Indians, who came into their camp, and appearing friendly, demanded food, etc., and finally assured the little party they must get their supplies for them. This request they were, perforce, obliged to comply with, and while engaged in the task the murderous redskins made the onslaught. Seven men were shot dead and the women were taken captives. Mr. William Larimer, well known in this Territory, was shot, and in the scramble which ensued among the Indians for the stock, was fortunate enough to make his escape unobserved, and made his way to the fort. Mr. Kelly, the husband of the lady to whom we are indebted for the facts embodied in this article, was a short distance from the camp when the attack was made, and thus effected his escape. Thus the entire party, with the exception of Mr. Kelly and Mr. Larimer, were either killed or captured as prisoners. During the same night, in the confusion of the retreat of the savages, Mrs. Larimer effected her escape, and was fortunate enough to reach the fort. Mrs. Kelly, with her little girl, an adopted child, slipped away from them on the second night, but was recaptured and the little girl killed. Subsequent to this Mrs. Kelly was entirely without the companionship of a single white person for the period of five months. The sufferings and hardships endured by her during the term of Sully's campaign against these Indians, were grievous indeed, and her experience would afford the material for a voluminous and thrilling narrative. She was, upon the occasion of one attack by Sully upon the Indians in whose hands she was, allowed to write letters, which the Indians would tie to a pole erected midway between the contending forces. These letters were answered by the soldiers, and by her agency a plot to decoy a portion of the command into an ambush was frustrated. She was finally released through the agency of friendly Indians, and rejoined her husband, after five months' captivity. The death of Mr. Kelly, two years later, left her a widow and dependent upon her own exertions for the proper care of the little property left after the loss of the teams and goods by Indians in 1864. She has sought to obtain indemnity from government for these losses, and has just gone to Washington to present her claims to the proper authorities in person.

SAYS the New York *Times:* We have been informed by persons immediately connected with the Spanish Naval Commission in this city, that Admiral Malcambo, commanding the Spanish fleet in Cuba and in our waters, now holds $800,000 in gold contributed by the residents in the "Ever Faithful Isle" to purchase two new steam sloops of war, and he is to receive $800,000 more in gold for the building of two more when the first two shall be completed. Each vessel is to cost $400,000. This would be good news for the shipbuilding portion of our readers if the vessels were to be constructed in our city, or even in America. But the chances are that they will not, for the Spaniards say that the American Government has given them too much trouble with the flotilla of gunboats built by Mr. Delamater, and they fear that, even could the vessels be built, fitted out and ready for sea to-morrow, their departure from the port would be prevented by some legal process.

MR. STANTON.

Two or Three Views of Him.

(Correspondence of the Boston Advertiser.)

WASHINGTON December 25, 1869.

It was one day in 1864, if I am right in my recollection, I went up to the War Department, about ten o'clock in the morning, and waited with others to see the Secretary in the Adjutant's office. There were a dozen or more of us, and we had to sit for half an hour before work gave him a chance to come from his inner room. When he came, he stood as usual by the desk, and heard each man's story or request or petition. Third or fourth in coming forward was a roughly dressed elderly man, evidently embarrassed at finding himself face to face with the Power Presence of the War Office. He stated his business in a few words—one of his vessels had been used by the government, and was now out of repair at New Orleans; he wanted permission to send down there from New York certain things, cordage and canvas, in part, for refitting the ship, so that he might get it to sea. He offered no papers to show who he was or prove the truth of his story, and none were called for by the Secretary. Mr. Stanton eyed the man with doubt and suspicion; cordage and canvas were contraband of war, and he thought the tale a mere cover for trade with the enemy. He stood silent for a moment, and then broke out in wrath. His first words were, "I've a good "mind to send you to the Old Capitol!" The man dropped back a foot or two, and then, evidently supposing his request had not been understood, began to speak again—hesitating and stammering, and making his case worse and worse with every syllable. The Secretary's voice was not loud, but you could not help feeling that it was intense with passion. "Not an-"other word, sir! How dare you come here "with such a story! Permit to send cordage to "New Orleans?—no sir, no sir, you'll get no "such permit. Are you trading with the rebels "or getting ready to trade? Permit?—I'll give "you a permit to the Old Capitol first! We've "had too much of this shipping contraband "goods. I'll not give you a permit, sir,—I'll "watch you, and if I find you trading I'll shut "you up, sir—shut you up, sir! Do you hear? "Now go about your business, sir, and be care-"ful that we don't get hold of you. I'll not "give you a permit—that's my answer."

This view illustrates one side of Mr. Stanton's character. He was at times arbitrary and unreasonable, but it was in the public service—he did not always have time or heart for considering private rights. The old man left the office in confusion, and with tears falling down his cheeks. The others of us stood in some fear and great amazement, for we knew very well who might be in that threat about the Old Capitol. Some of us went away without making known any business—doubtless we all breathed freer once outside the building. It was no time for asking favors—the dullest of us understood that well enough.

Two or three days later I was at the Department again—this time after business hours, about four o'clock in the evening. The Secretary saw me in the Adjutant's room, and called me to the private office. "You were here the "other day when a man wanted permission to "send some supplies down to New Orleans?" I answered that I was. "And you remember "what took place then?" I ventured to say that I thought none of us who were present would forget the morning. "Well, well—never "mind that; I was very unjust to that man "and I want to find him again. I felt sorry "after he went away—I looked into his case, "and he's served the country; we wanted his "vessel, and he let us have it for almost noth-"ing; it's our business to put it in good order. "He don't want a permit, but I ought to "apologize to him. I've got his name—do you "know if he's in town, and where he may be "found?" Happily I did know—he was at the hotel, much cast down and dejected. "Will "you go and give him my respects, and ask "him to come up to my house at six o'clock—"or stay, I'll send a man with you." And he called a clerk or messenger:—"This man will "show him where I live; you tell him that I "want to make him an apology—tell him what "I've said to you. It was wrong and unjust in "me to speak to him as I did." We found the old gentleman at dinner. He started and turned pale when I said he was wanted by Mr. Stanton, but I soon made him understand how he would be received. When he returned from the Secretary's house he was in an ecstasy of delight—"He's a good man, and can have "whatever I've got that will help on the war "for the old flag under which I've sailed so "long."

The great Secretary loved justice. He was one of the readiest of men, so far as my observation goes, to offer his apology for a wrong. Thinking nothing of himself but everything of the cause, there was no humiliation in asking pardon for an unkind speech or a bitter word. Personally he was gentle and tender as a woman; but he hated disloyalty and half-heartedness, and was at no pains to spare his passion when he met either. He bound many a man to him with ties strong as life, just by the way he atoned for injustice or harshness. If he was stormy in his anger, he was considerate and kind in his calmer moods.

One evening we received a long report from our correspondent in the field before Fredericksburg. It was a story of a battle and a defeat. We wanted permission to send something of it to the *Advertiser* that night by telegraph. To get that we went to Mr. Stanton's house. He was at dinner when my friend's card was presented. The servant came out to say that he would finish his dinner unless our business was urgent. We returned word that we had a letter from the front with important news, but would wait his pleasure or convenience. He came at once—asked about the report, how it got here, and by whom it was written. "Now I'll sit down and you may read it to me—I shall see what's in it quicker, so, than I shall if I read it myself." Just as my friend began reading, little Ella, of four or five years, came running out from the dining-room and stood by her father's chair. He put his arms tenderly about her, and she nestled there while the long story of war and blood and death and defeat was read. It was a picture I can never forget—the strong man and the little child so together. I think of it always when I hear him spoken of as without feeling or human sympathies. Toward the end of the letter was mention of a young lieutenant who had died bravely in action. "Read that again," said the Secretary. And when it had been read he answered:—"As good a boy as ever I knew, with a good woman for a mother,"—speaking the words with much emotion. When the reading was over he told us how we might use the report. We rose to leave, but he asked us to wait a few minutes and excuse him. So we sat for his return. There was a sweet light in his eyes as he entered, and a grave reverence in the tone of his voice when he handed us a letter. "It's to his mother; will you mail it for me? I want it to go forward to-night."

They knew not this man who call him harsh and cruel. The Secretary was stern and rigid in his duties; the man was simple and loving and true-hearted. History will tell of the officer's vast labors and responsibilities, some of us must forever keep in mind the friend and citizen as he was in all his private relations, warm and upright and helpful and of gracious spirit.

DECADENCE.

The Depopulation of the Country Districts of New England.

The decrease of population among the country towns of New England is startling. Railroads and factories have changed the ancient order of things. The Palmer (Mass.) *Journal* says the population of the hills has slid into the valleys, and with it the wealth also. Farms can now be bought for less than what the buildings are worth, while several farms are often merged into one, and briars and brambles spring up where once was the garden and the rose. Rev. Dr. Gale, of Berkshire county, Mass., in a recent sermon, drew a gloomy picture of the decrease of population in that county. There are thirty-three Congregational churches in the county, and only fourteen settled pastors. In 1829 there were twenty-six churches and twenty-three pastors, and the membership in forty years has increased only thirty-four. The Palmer *Journal*, above quoted, says:

> In the last four years we have traveled thousands of miles among the hill and mountain towns, treading their back roads and by-ways, wherever the remnant of a once prosperous population lingers. One is surprised at the indication of decay witnessed at almost every mile. For long distances there are no human habitations. You pass the wreck of once elegant mansions, or the foundations where they stood. Others are crumbling back to dust, the outside covering hardly keeping the elements from reaching the inmates within. There are scraggy remains of large and once fruitful orchards, now moss-grown and choked with underbrush. Occasionally, at the cross-roads, may be seen a dilapidated school-house, long since deserted by children and teacher, and oftentimes we have traveled a half a day without seeing a solitary human being, except as we entered a dwelling. A thickly-tenanted, but sadly-neglected burial place, here and there, is evidence that there once dwelt among the hills and mountains a more numerous population.

The reasons assigned by the *Journal* are that "it has become the fashion to have fewer children, and the farmer who once raised a dozen boys who helped carry on the farm prosperously, is succeeded by another who hires help, outdoor and in, and finds at the end of the year that he has scarcely saved enough to pay his employees. If he has one or two sons or daughters, they cannot be content with humble fare at home, but must ape the fashions of the city or village, and force the 'old folks at home' into more style in living than they can afford."

The Providence (R. I.) *Press* asserts that its own State is an exception to a certain extent to the depopulation now going on in the country towns of New England, for its manufacturing interests have saved most of the towns. But still the *Press* admits that the picture drawn by the Palmer *Journal* is not exaggerated, and that statistics would reveal similar facts throughout the country districts of New England. We make this interesting extract from its article:

> This decadence commenced some years since, but was almost inappreciable till railroads were opened, when the movement began on quite a large scale. Yankee forecasting saw at the depots the centers of trade the most stirring and enterprising of the [illegible] left them, followed by many who had no clear or definite ideas beyond being in a lively place. Many of the latter were laborers; a portion have bettered themselves, and others had better have remained at their old homes. Again, agricultural pursuits have not afforded a remuneration sufficient to satisfy the ambition of many, and they turned their backs upon the country, and drifted to the villages and cities. Agriculture clung to its old modes of culture, and fell behind the average of other occupations. Though improvements and machinery were introduced, they could not overcome the difficulties incident to the primary requisite—a proper system of fertilizing. But let farming come up to the level of other pursuits, and the tendency of migration from the country from this cause would cease to be operative. Again, there has been a semi-aristocracy in many places, cliques or rings, against which it was hopeless for any young man to contend. Hence many who were somewhat ambitious, and felt pinched by the regime, have gone elsewhere. In other fields they have satisfied their ambition, and had a recognition they could not hope for at home. The article which we print gives, as the chief cause, extravagance and fashion. These have had their effects, but they have been slight compared with those before alluded to. The causes are more numerous than the writer supposes, and the remedy must be in balancing industry; making agriculture pay better, with a little more liberality towards the young men. They have been ignored in too many cases.

IT has just been decided in a baggage case that steamship companies are liable for the loss of passengers' baggage. The passenger had taken his valise into the stateroom and it was stolen from thence. The company argued that he had not placed the baggage in the place made ready for it and that he had taken charge of it himself, and so relieved them of the responsibility. The court held that a passenger could not take charge of his baggage in such a way as to relieve the company while it was on the ship. This is an important decision to our river men, as it will apply to steamboats as well as steamships.

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Spasms in Children

Are most frequently caused by worms. B. A. Fahnestock's Vermifuge will expel them immediately.
TThs

Let Common Sense Decide.

What is the rational mode of procedure in cases of general debility and nervous prostration? Does not reason tell us that judicious stimulation is required. To resort to violent purgation in such a case is as absurd as it would be to bleed a starving man. Yet it is done every day. Yes, this stupid and unphilosophical practice is continued in the teeth of the *great fact* that physical weakness, with all the nervous disturbances that accompany it, is more certainly and rapidly relieved by Hostetter's Stomach Bitters than by any other medicine at present known. It is true that general debility is often attended with torpidity or irregularity of the bowels, and that this symptom must not be overlooked. But while the discharge of the waste matter of the system is expedited or regulated, its *vigor must be recruited*. The Bitters do both. They combine aperient and anti-bilious properties with extraordinary tonic power. Even while removing obstructions from the bowels, they tone and invigorate those organs. Through the stomach, upon which the great vegetable specific acts directly, it gives a healthy and permanent impetus to every enfeebled function. Digestion is facilitated, the faltering circulation regulated, the blood reinforced with a new accession of the alimentary principle, the nerves braced, and all the dormant powers of the system roused into healthy action; not spasmodically, as would be the case if a mere stimulant were administered, but for a continuance. It is in this way that such extraordinary changes are wrought in the condition of the feeble, emaciated and nervous invalids by the use of this wonderful corrective, alterative and tonic. Let common sense decide between such a preparation and a prostrating cathartic supplemented by a poisonous astringent like strychnine or quinia.

THE IRON CITY NATIONAL BANK OF PITTSBURGH.—An election for Thirteen Directors of this Bank to serve during the ensuing year, will be held at the Banking House, Fourth avenue, on TUESDAY, January 11, 1870, between the hours of 12 M. and 3 P. M.
J. MAGOFFIN, Cashier.
Pittsburg, December 11, 1869.

HOLLIDAYSBURG, PA., SEMINARY.
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Session begins January 19, 1870.

IRON WORKS TO RENT.

If any person or persons desire to rent and have the use for a number of years of very valuable Iron Works, favorably located, and believed, if properly carried on and developed, to be worth fully half a million of dollars, will call on or write to the President of the First National Bank, Hollidaysburg, Blair county, Pa., or the President of the First National Bank of Huntingdon, Penn'a, they will be referred to either of them to persons who can and will be able to accommodate them on reasonable terms. The property referred to is located in said county of Blair and consists of a Furnace, Forge, Rolling Mill and Nail Factory, now in working order, with from 5,000 to 6,000 acres of wood and farm land, the right to take as much as can be used at one Furnace of the very best quality of Hematite Ore, all of a very large vein, if not several veins; twelve miles long of the best quality of Fossil Ore, easily worked and transported, containing millions of tons, with the right to take the necessary wood, &c., to be used in mining it, &c. Part of this property is located on the connections of the Pennsylvania Railroad, and all near to it. The persons owning this property might and are disposed to rent it for a certain number of years on quite fair terms, if they can obtain a fair rent for it, as it does not suit them to fully develop and carry it on at present.

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NOTICE—LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION on the estate of CATHERINE SEITELL, deceased, have been granted to the undersigned by the Register of Allegheny county, all persons indebted to said estate are hereby notified to make payment, and those having claims against the estate are requested to present them for payment without delay to me, at McKeesport.
GEORGE SNYDER, Administrator.

$500 REWARD.

$500 REWARD will be paid for any information which will lead to the discovery of the whereabouts of Mr. SAMUEL SICKMAN, of California, Washington county, Pa. Mr. Sickman arrived in Pittsburgh, on the Brownsville packet "Elector," about one o'clock on Saturday, December 11, was seen by several of his friends during the afternoon, and last seen at the National Hotel about five o'clock in the evening; he temperate and regular in his habits, about 60 years old, bald headed, no whiskers, a little above medium heighth, heavy set, and weighs about 190 pounds; had on stiff hat and suit of dark clothes. Information can be left with or addressed to JOS. FORSYTHE, 145 Fourth avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa., or JONATHAN SICKMAN, Vanport, Beaver county, Pa.

MINNESOTA LANDS FOR SALE—ONE Hundred and Twenty Acres of Land, partly within and partly adjoining the city limits of Stillwater, Minnesota. Three Hundred and Sixty Acres adjoining Chengwatana, county seat of Pine county, Minnesota, and Eighty Acres of Mineral Land, near Superior City, Wisconsin. The above property is very valuable. For particulars inquire of CROFT & PHILLIPS, No. 139 Fourth avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.
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INTEREST PAID ON DEPOSITS.
GOLD, COUPONS,
Bonds and Stocks,
BOUGHT AND SOLD.
A. BRADLEY .... President.
W. VANKIRK .... Vice President.
CYRUS CLARKE, JR. .... Cashier.
d*

Dissolution of Copartnership.
The Copartnership heretofore existing under the style of JOSEPH WOODWELL & CO., is this day dissolved by mutual consent, JOHN H. STEUART retiring.
JOS. WOODWELL & CO.,
WM. K. WOODWELL,
JOHN H. STEUART.
January 1st, 1870.

COPARTNERSHIP.—HAVING THIS day associated with us in the Hardware Business JOSEPH R. WOODWELL, under the style of JOS. WOODWELL & CO., the firm will consist of the following persons.
JOSEPH WOODWELL,
WM. K. WOODWELL,
JOSEPH R. WOODWELL.
January 1st, 1870.

1847. 1870.
Joseph Woodwell & Co.
JOSEPH WOODWELL, WM. K. WOODWELL,
JOSEPH R. WOODWELL.
Wholesale and Retail Dealers in
HARDWARE.
In addition to a very full and well assorted Stock of Hardware, keep the following
SPECIALTIES.
Morse Twist Drills, Reamers and Chucks.
Ornamental Wood, Mouldings, Carved Handles.
Carvers' Tools, Moulders' Tools.
Porcelain Pew Numbers, Plates and Ornamental Knobs
Harris Paint Mills.
Washoe Picks and Mattocks.
Weather Vanes.
Auburn Files and Rasps.
Ship Augers and Car Bitts.
COR. SECOND AVE. AND WOOD STREET
TThs* PITTSBURGH, PA.

Woolen Druggets
AND
FELT CARPETS,
1¼, 2, 2½, 3, 3¼, 3½ and 3¾
Yards Wide.
BORDERED SQUARES,
SUITABLE FOR PARLORS.
Dining Room Crumb Cloths,
Woolen, Linen and Cotton.
At Lower Prices than Last Season,
Notwithstanding the undiminished Tariff on these Goods.
McFARLAND & COLLINS
71 AND 73 FIFTH AVENUE.
d*